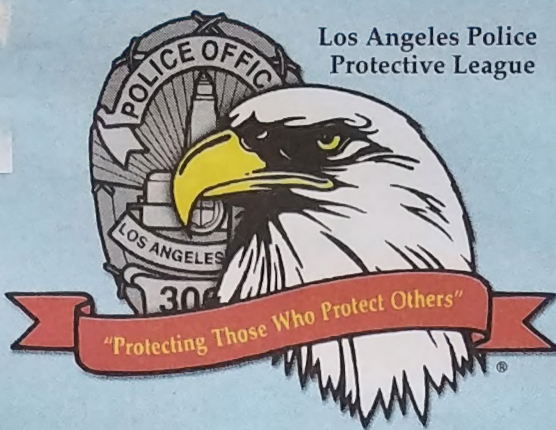


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Los Angeles Police
Protective League

The
**Blue
Line**

Vol. 58, No. 3

Published Monthly

March, 2003

LAPPL Endorsed Candidates for City Council

Primary Election March 4, 2003

Council District

Candidate

2nd



Wendy Greuel



4th



Tom LaBonge



6th



Tony Gardenas



8th

No Endorsement

10th



Martin Ludlow



12th



Greig Smith



14th



Nick Pacheco



INSIDE THIS ISSUE...

Letters to the Editor	14	Divisionals	27
Political Frontline	18	Sports	41
For Your Information	19	Retirement	45
Veteran's Corner	26	Classifieds	50

League Makes History

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Page 3

Tradition With Vision

Police work has always taken thought and analysis. Our Department is just becoming a little more scientific in its approach.

Page 5

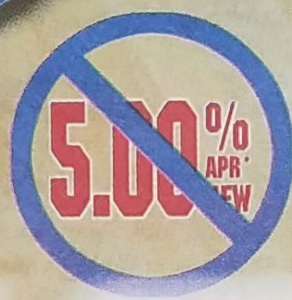
Caruso: "Parker Center Problems Won't Go Away!"

Rick Caruso is tired of bureaucratic non-answers to age-old problems that no one really wants to deal with.

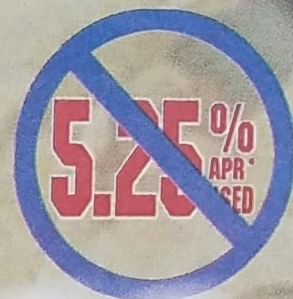
Page 9

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LEAGUE MAKES HISTORY

Bob Baker, President

For the last several years, the Los Angeles Police Protective League had been making history in many areas, including the implementation of policies, member benefits and community outreach. In January, we added another mark of distinction to our list, when – for the first time ever – we were invited to present our thoughts and views at the Staff Officers Annual Retreat (SOAR), a gathering of all of the command staff of the LAPD.

This recognition of the importance of the voice of the rank and file by the Chief and his management team is an indication of the new direction in which the Department is moving. They are interested in learning more about the League and our view on issues that impact public safety and working conditions, and we are more than happy to represent the voice of the rank and file to them.

Going into the presentation, we know that not all staff officers were truly familiar with the League, and many had preconceived – albeit inaccurate – views of what our goals and objectives are in this new era of policing. We took the opportunity, therefore, to educate them on all of the services we provide and how we have transitioned to an organization that is focused on advocacy and action, without losing sight of our pri-

mary duty (and reason for being) – the representation of our League members.

Several Directors joined me for the presentation, to detail pertinent information on such topics as League history, benefits/services for members, legal, governmental advocacy, media/community relations and upcoming issues. Being able to make a presentation at SOAR gave the command staff the unique opportunity to get to know several members of your Board – and, perhaps more importantly, get to know them away from the negotiating table.

Unfortunately, at the negotiating table, issues are sometimes misunderstood and inaccurate information trickles down to the rank and file. By coming together in a more informal forum focused on the free exchange of ideas, we were able to promote a sense of openness, so that in the future we can try to sort out things before they become issues.

We hope that this opportunity to interact and get to know one another will enable us to address such important issues as the Consent Decree, recruitment and the upcoming contract. Already we have seen increased cooperation from the Chief to participate with the League in such activities as joint roll calls, media interviews and other important meetings. The Chief and the League, where appropriate, must share

our challenges and our successes.

It is important to keep in mind that just because we are working with Chief Bratton on certain issues, it does not mean that we will always agree. It is impossible to ignore the fact that staff officers view issues from a management prism, and we view issues from a labor prism and that we have vastly different perspectives on many issues. While we both share the common belief that understanding and knowing the community is important, it is inevitable that issues will come up in which we will each take opposing viewpoints. The League's main focus is on providing you with the best service and protecting your rights, and that must always be our goal, regardless of anyone else's beliefs. What we have seen in Chief Bratton thus far is that he is a leader who is flexible and he does not appear to be calcified in his opinions on issues that we bring to his attention – and we hope that this adaptable attitude prevails.

We are very proud of the work that you are doing and will continue to stand up for our officers' rights. The rank and file is our line of defense in the war on crime, and we must take steps to ensure that you are equipped and empowered to do your job. As such, we provided the following list of key issues at SOAR, as those that we believe will be at the forefront of our agenda throughout the year.

Contract negotiations: The current contract expires on June 30. Since 1996, we have achieved and overall 34 percent pay increase for LAPD officers, and we will do everything within our power to return a contract that is just as competitive this year.

Recruitment: Even though our numbers have been increasing lately, we are still short in many critical areas. The LAPPL is hosting recruitment

booths at several local community activities and has pledged to assist the Department in other efforts in order to encourage more people to become involved with the Department.

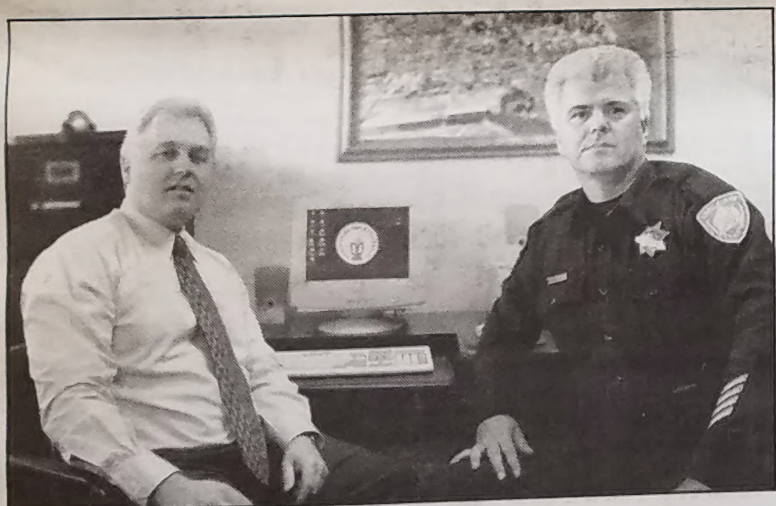
Consent Decree: Since we have gained a seat at the negotiating table, we can now more closely monitor policy revisions that may seriously impact the way in which you do your jobs. One issue associated with the Consent Decree that has come up several times now is the collection of racial data ("stop data") for all pedestrian and traffic stops, and how it will be used and evaluated. We are working to ensure that this data is not utilized without proper analysis, so that it will not negatively impact the officers of the Department.

Discipline system: Although changes have been made to the system in recent months, more can still be done. We are encouraged that steps have been taken to ensure that frivolous complaints do not receive any undue attention, and that departmental resources are being used more wisely to properly address disciplinary issues. However, some of the problems of the Parks' administration still linger, including concerns over risk management, officers' rights, due process on downgrades and discipline related to use of force, so it is obvious that more work needs to be done in these areas to ensure our officers are treated fairly.

As we embark on reforms at the Department, it is important for us to maintain our communications with you and address your concerns. To help us communicate the needs of officers better, each Director of the League is now assigned to a specific division to serve as the point person

continued on page 16

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— SERGEANT EUGENE REESE (right) with Union Professor Steve Mauser (left)

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THE SHINE IS COMING BACK TO THE LAPD BADGE

Mitzi Grasso, Vice President

It has been said that a community is as good as its police force. When Chief Bratton took over command of our troubled Department, he said, "We will build on the legacy and the tradition and the skills and we will take that most famous shield, and whatever little tarnish exists ... it will be wiped clean." I am happy to report that Chief Bratton is making strides on that promise.

The LAPD is not yet an ideal Department, nor is the city free of crime. But even critics cannot dispute the high level of law enforcement from such a thin blue line. While New York has about 40,000 officers, the LAPD has only 9,000 - 1,000 under-strength. LAPD officers of every rank are beginning to work alongside management toward a common goal of reducing crime. Together we are showing the residents and visitors of Los Angeles that LAPD officers can provide top quality law enforcement.

While the LAPPL may from time to time disagree with Chief Bratton on details on how to improve the Department, his confidence and bluntness along with his integrity and intelligence is bringing the shine back to the badge of the LAPD.

Back To Basics

Last month, I discussed how the LAPD often finds itself overwhelmed by competing priorities, even though everyone agrees that one critical goal is rebuilding public support for the LAPD. While public and media support for the Department are important, good law enforcement is good public relations.

A blueprint for the future of the LAPD is needed, however there are numerous efficiencies that the LAPD should undertake that do not require money - but rather a return to basic law enforcement. As the LAPD moves into the 21st Century, "quantity" and "quality" must go hand in hand. While adding more police officers to the force is essential, it is not itself sufficient to make Los Angeles safer. LAPD officers need such things as additional space and modern equipment. We need computer

terminals so that officers do not lose hours manually logging reports. We need to take a comprehensive approach to public safety so that we can continue to clean up the streets and restore safety to our neighborhoods. You can't build a house without first laying a foundation - in the same way, LAPD officers can't effectively fight crime without the basics to get the job done.

Reserve Officers Playing a Valuable Role in the LAPD

As talk of war with Iraq continues and more troops are deployed, the LAPD and law enforcement agencies are faced with losing valuable workers as more military reservists are called to duty.

Like the military, the LAPD and other law enforcement agencies rely on Reserve Officers to fill critical needs. The Reserve Program, now 55 years old, has allowed residents of Los Angeles to take an active role in protecting and serving the members of their community by volunteering to supplement the efforts of the LAPD. It is truly "community policing," exemplified by the motto of the program: "to be a Reserve is to be twice a citizen."

What makes this program even more remarkable is that the exacting standards to become a Line Reserve Police Officer match those required of regular officers. The background, psychological and physical requirements are not relaxed. Line Reserve Officers are required to pass all of the same tests as full-time officers. Unless they retired from the force like Dennis Zine, they must participate in over nine months of intense training twice a week during evenings, and all day every other weekend. They do this while maintaining their full-time occupations. Today, the success of the LAPD Police Reserve program is evident in every neighborhood in Los Angeles.

Because of the standards, the selection process and the training program for

continued on page 16

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- Opinions expressed in this publication are not necessarily those of the Los Angeles Police Protective League.
- No responsibility is assumed for unsolicited material.
- Letters or articles submitted shall be limited to 350 words and must be accompanied by writer's name but may be reprinted without name or address at writer's request.
- Freedom of expression is recognized within the bounds of good taste and the limits of available space.
- The Board of Directors reserve the right to edit submissions and/or include Editor's Notes to any submitted materials.
- Deadline for submissions to the Thin Blue Line is the 1st of the month for the following month's issue date.

NOTICE: The LAPPL is affiliated with the following organizations on the national and state level.

- IUPA** International Union of Police Associations, A.F.L.-C.I.O., representing over 100,000 police officer members in Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands, Alaska and the continental U.S. in 580 locals.
- NAPO** National Association of Police Organizations representing nearly 220,000 police officer members in 4,000 police associations nationwide.
- CCLEA** California Coalition of Law Enforcement Associations representing 28 California police officer associations.
- SCALE** Southern California Alliance of Law Enforcement representing 10 police officer associations.
- BIG 11** An informal association of the 11 largest sworn law enforcement associations in the State of California.
- BIG 50** An informal association of the 50 largest law enforcement associations in the United States.
- LACOPS** Los Angeles County Organization of Police and Sheriffs consisting of all the law enforcement associations in Los Angeles.

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TRADITION WITH VISION

Ted Hunt, Secretary

A guy living down by the beach had a car that was beginning to rust out. He could see the tell-tale signs of rust and corrosion because the rusting powder and small metal chips fell on the garage floor under the car.

Rather than find out exactly where the rust was forming and then repairing the problem, the guy just randomly painted the exterior surface of the car. But the rusting problem was not stopped, it continued on until it completely damaged the body of the car which literally fell apart.

You have to ask yourself, why didn't the guy dig under the surface of the paint and find the real problem - the rusting? And why didn't he dig out the rust and replace it and put a seal coat on to prevent future rusting?

Community problems and police problems are like the rusting car. When there is a problem, do we randomly patrol (randomly paint the exterior surface) or do we scratch the surface to find out what the real problem is and then get rid of the problem.

This appears to be the theory which the Department is adopting. It's what problem policing is all about. Find out what the root problem is and then resolve it.

There is an old saying that you "make what you measure." In other words, if you get measured (rated) on

writing F-I's, you'll make sure you write the proper number of F-I's. If you get measured (rated) on writing major movers, you'll make sure you write the proper number of major movers.

That is the classic numbers game which often creates a paradox. Crime continues to climb even though you can prove that you are doing something about crime. "Look at the numbers, production is up." But is production impacting crime? If there is little or no correlation between the things you measure and the cause of crime then there can be no reasonable conclusion that crime will go down as a result of what you do. In other words, you just show a lot of effort but little effectiveness.

The crime strategies that the Department is presenting are focused on identifying and solving problems, not on random activities.

Police work has always taken thought and analysis. Our Department is just becoming a little more scientific in its approach. Not numbers for numbers sake, but target the problems and deploy the resources in the most effective and efficient way.

As line officers, we need to understand that this cannot succeed without our understanding it and working to achieve it. Good luck and be safe.

"Krummy" RIP (04) ❖

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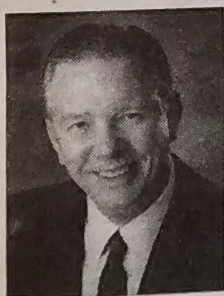
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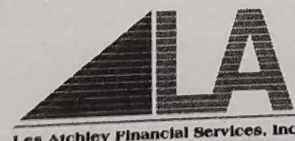
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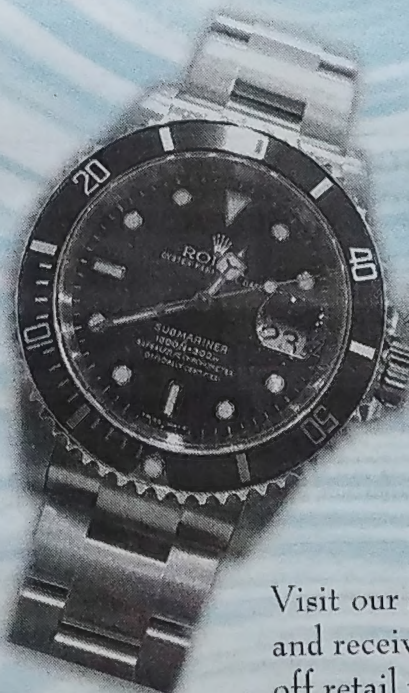
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Tim Sands, Treasurer

Class Action Grievance

I have filed a Class Action Grievance for all our military members who are Lieutenant and below. The City is refusing to reimburse individuals who are on extended military leave, their vacation time, when due to non-use, they go over the allotted hours. Any member that this grievance affects, please fax me evidence of loss of vacation time. (i.e., pay check stubs, correspondence, etc). My fax number is (213) 251-4566, attention Timothy Sands. Should you have any questions, you can e-mail me at tim-sands@lappl.org or call (213) 251-4586.

Supreme Court Rules in Favor of LAPPL

On January 15, 2003, the California Supreme Court denied the City's petition for review in the below cases:

Los Angeles Police Protective League v. City of Los Angeles (2002) 102 Cal. App. 4th 85 and

Daryl Brown v. City of Los Angeles (2002) 102 Cal. App. 4th 155.

These cases involve our dispute with the City over Administrative Order No. 15, regarding Administrative Appeals. The League has always taken the position that when an officer loses money, (i.e.,

downgraded – punitively punished), he or she is entitled to a due process hearing, which Administrative Order No. 15 is not. The League and the City will be meeting in the near future to hopefully agree on a due process hearing. Both cases are published, which means the League can use them as a precedent to settle any pending litigation. I want to thank the law firm of Silver, Hadden & Silver for a job well done.

Objections to District Attorney's Brady Alert System

Since the latter part of December 2002, the Brady Compliance Division of the District Attorney's Office has sent objectionable letters to individual LAPD officers notifying them of the intent to place such officers in the Brady Alert System based on alleged "Brady" material in their background. Any officer receiving such a letter from the District Attorney should immediately contact any Director at the League for a referral to the League's Legal Department.

The League will appeal any such letter for the member. We will be meeting with representatives of the District Attorney's office to address our concerns.

Take care and be safe!

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THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW

Don Lint

Since the last edition of the *Blue Line* was published we have closed out 26 grievances. This is somewhat of an aberration but you should know what we are doing on your behalf. Keep in mind that although you may not have been a grievant in any of these cases, it does affect you in that it makes a record for that particular issue and gives all of us clarity on the issue grieved.

Of those grievances closed, we prevailed on five, lost nine, and dismissed or withdrew 12. Of those dismissed or withdrawn, seven were due to retirement or quit the job. What that means is that the issue being grieved did not affect the grievant monetarily so as to change their pension. Three grievances were withdrawn as a result of being litigated at the Board of Inquiry lawsuit.

The Board of Inquiry lawsuit is the lawsuit initiated on behalf of League Members that have been sent to a Board of Inquiry and been denied a promotion. This "Star Chamber" event neither allows the individual to prepare, defend or be represented at the Board of Inquiry and in many cases the individuals had been selected for promotion, and literally days before the promotion, they were removed from the promotion list and directed to a Board of Inquiry.

Remember that this is not intended to be a victory exclusively for those individuals in the lawsuit, but to prevent this

from happening in the future, thus benefiting all the membership.

Risk Management

In the past few months I have received many phone calls concerning Risk Management. There is currently a lawsuit concerning the process used by Risk Management but until it is settled we still have to contend with the things they are doing. You may know individuals that are under the microscope of Risk Management, most likely they are riding the pine at the front desk or unable to work off-duty because work permits have been pulled or denied. I had written an entire article about Risk Management but was encouraged to pull the article. That notwithstanding, I **do not agree** with the concept of the current Risk Management, that they can foresee an officer committing misconduct before it occurs thus saving the city from lawsuits. I don't believe my opinion on this issue is a secret to anyone currently involved with this process.

There is a ray of hope in all this. I have found that Risk Management has been very receptive to making corrections or adjustments to the duty restrictions imposed on officers when they are made aware of certain situations. The downside of this is that it is on a case-by-case basis. I am confident that in the near future we will have new

Risk Management guidelines and the cloak of secrecy currently in place will be removed.

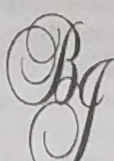
Old Friends

I would like to start a monthly profile of people that you may not know what or how they have supported you in the past and continue to support you today.


Faddoul Baida. Faddoul has been a long time supporter of law enforcement for the past couple of decades. Faddoul is the owner of Baida Jewelers and gives all law enforcement officers a discount when items are purchased from him. But this is just a small way that he shows his

appreciation for what you do. He supports running teams for Baker to Vegas, he is a long time advertiser in the *Blue Line* and a contributor to our Family Support Golf Tournament. This year, Faddoul has decided to sell Gold and Silver LAPD badge pendants and the profit made from the pendants will be donated to the Family Support Golf Tournament. His plan is to sell them at a fraction of the cost that they are being sold for in other stores, the difference being the profit is going toward a worthy cause that benefits the LAPD family.


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RUMOR CONTROL

Luther Lutz

Since coming to the League in January I have learned a lot, like the League is in bed with the Chief and the Command Staff and that the directors have sold out the membership. According to the rumors, the League has agreed with the Chief's plan to put detectives on a 24/7 shift, to replace the 3/12 plan with the 4/10 plan, to discontinue any form of a compressed work schedule, and to not oppose the Chief's program to force all restricted duty officers to apply for a pension or be terminated within the next 90 days. And the list goes on.

Well, needless to say none of this is true. How these rumors get started is beyond me. I can hardly wait for the rumors on the upcoming contract (just kidding). I want to assure you that the League has not sold out to the Chief or to management. Yes, there is an atmosphere of cooperation between the League and the Department. As you all know the League went toe to toe with the some of the Command Staff and the former Chief on many issues, and a lot of these battles became very public. I was not here then, but since I have been here I have been surprised at how receptive the Department has been on some of the issues I have been trying to resolve for officers. On other issues, the

Department was not receptive. On these issues, the League will pursue the administrative and legal remedies that are available to ensure these issues are resolved to the satisfaction of the officers and that the rights of the membership are protected.

One issue that the League is trying to resolve with the Department is comment card entries for officers working cash overtime details at LAX. Some officers are getting comment card entries for working this detail within 8 hours of their last/next scheduled workday. For example, one officer who received a comment card entry is assigned to a staff assignment and was not on a compressed work schedule. The officer went EOW at 1600 hours on Friday. He then reported to work at 2300 hours that night at LAX for a cash overtime detail for the Saturday AM shift. Because he worked the cash overtime detail at LAX 7 hours after his previous scheduled EOW he received a comment card entry because it was less than 8 hours between his EOW time and the time he began work at LAX, even though it was for the next work day. If you have received a comment card entry as the result of working a cash overtime detail at LAX, call me so that the League can have it

rescinded. It is the League's position that the time between shifts should not be an issue for officers not assigned to the 3/12 schedule.

Currently, the Department is still developing its organizational structure and trying to determine the right people for the right assignments. During this transition process, it is impossible for the League to negotiate with the Chief and management on many of the issues that are important to the membership because they are still formulating their organizational and operational plans and strategies. Once the Department develops its plans and knows what they want to do, the League and the Department will then sit down and negotiate on the issues that impact the membership, like work schedules. Until then the League will continue to meet with the Chief and the Command Staff to voice concerns the membership and the League have so that the Chief and the Command Staff are aware of the issues that officers think are important. That way when it is

time to negotiate issues at least there will be an understanding of each other's position when negotiations begin.

Although, the League is working with the Chief and the Command Staff to resolve issues that are important to the membership, there are going to be changes in how the Department is structured and how it operates. Most of the changes will be good for the organization and the membership. However, the League has not lost sight of its mission and when the time comes, the League will be there fighting for the rights of the membership and ensuring that your interests are addressed.

If you have any questions call me, at (213) 251-4554. If I am not available, please leave your area code and the complete phone number. This week I had several messages with incomplete phone numbers, no area code, and a telephone number that had been disconnected. I promise that I will call you back if you leave a number where you can actually be contacted.

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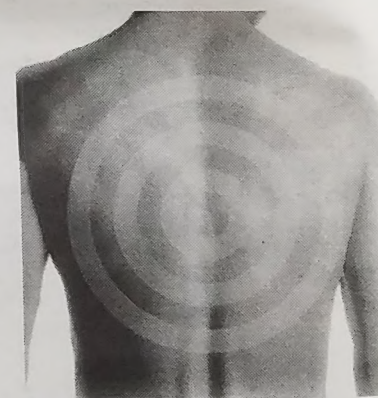
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CARUSO: "PARKER CENTER PROBLEMS WON'T GO AWAY!"

Peter Repovich

As President of the Police Commission, Rick Caruso's main objectives are implementing an ambitious strategic plan of putting the Department on the road to success. (*more on this issue later*) In the President's now well-intended, direct and forceful manner, Rick Caruso is tired of bureaucratic non-answers to age-old problems that no one really wants to deal with. Caruso's approach can only be categorized in this Director's opinion as refreshing. At last and at least the Rank and File has a voice coming from the back office smoke-filled rooms.

Now that we have a new police chief and other reforms are underway, Caruso and the Police Commission members are beating the drum on an old issue that really does put our member's security and health at risk. Parker Center is dangerous, and constitutes a threat to the health of the people who work in it, and equally important, it doesn't facilitate the level of accommodation that a modern large metropolitan Police Department deserves. A new headquarters should be properly planned, keeping in mind the future and to meet all of the most modern safety standards possible to ensure the well being of all our employees. True modernization may even facilitate and encourage a more efficient effective policing agency, it's funny how all of this stuff goes hand in hand.

The irony of the situation is evidenced in survey reports on the unsafe nature of Parker Center and news articles covering the Police Commission's efforts to get these problems addressed: we are the force that protects the residents of this city and ensures their safety, yet the LAPD is not safe in its own headquarters.

In 1995, a physical conditions survey of existing facilities – including Parker Center and police stations throughout the city – was completed by a coalition of local architects, engineering firms, construction firms and others specializing in electrical systems, safety systems, etc. The Kosmont Report asserted that Parker Center did not meet current code, and did not have any of the life-saving systems typically associated with high-rise buildings. What's more, the report recommended renovations of Parker Center to the point that only the existing concrete structure would remain – all other walls, floors, lighting, electrical and communication systems, safety systems, plumbing, elevators and even the roof would need to be replaced.

As the report says: "The structure has a noticeable tilt (known as creep) in the north/south direction due either to foundation settling or earthquake movement, and some seismic damage is evident. **Given the extent of demolition required, the condition of the structure and the inefficient plan layout, this building should be considered for demolition and replacement.**"

The two things that I find most disturbing are the lack of safety systems and susceptibility to earthquake damage. The fire protection system consists solely of a smoke detector in each elevator lobby – there are no fire sprinklers anywhere in the building, except in the property room in the basement, boy if that doesn't show our priorities in a bad light! If that isn't enough, in lieu of the sprinklers, there isn't even a fully automated life safety system for emergency evacuations. I don't even want to begin to think of the air quality issues that sur-

round the HVAC system.

The report also concluded, "If a Northridge-type earthquake were to occur in a five-mile radius of the site, and assuming no unusual soil participation, the tower structure will most likely suffer severe damage."

Granted, we're dealing with a building that is nearly 50 years old. But, why hasn't it been kept up to code all these years? Records show that the fire department began citing Parker Center for noncompliance with the city ordinance requiring buildings taller than 75 feet to install fire safety systems (including sprinklers) in 1990. Numerous times since then, it has received other citations or the issue has resurfaced, but nothing has been done.

City officials repeatedly cite cost as the prohibitive measure to achieving, at the very least, the necessary repairs and retrofits, or, on a grander scale, full renovations to the building. The City Council tried to pass a bond measure in 1999 to pay for the replacement of Parker Center, but it did not win voter approval. No other requests for funds have been answered.

MAYBE IT'S TIME FOR A PUBLIC PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP TO MEET ALL OF THE NEEDS OF PUBLIC SAFETY? (*Local tax incentives for companies who may be willing to put up the money, a little creativity*)

President Caruso is on the case and hopes to get some answers. Cost estimates for constructing a new headquarters range from \$190 million to \$285 million. The right answer for numerous reasons is to build a new building – and cost effective approach – to simply construct a new building, rather than trying to renovate the old one. Moving those who work in the building to a temporary facility while the new building is constructed would cost approximately \$30 million.

I attended a meeting this week of the municipal facilities committee where a report was submitted by the Bureau of Engineering with assistance from the Department of General Services. The report addressed the cost issue associated with bringing the building up to code compliance for four to five years while another headquarters could be built. The report estimated a cost of 5.40 million to 6.59 million dollars. What bothered me in the report was "Although the facility is not in conformance with current codes, it has many non-conforming rights." I know I don't like this sentence!

As Commission President Caruso pointed out, "If this had been a private building, it would have been closed and vacated by now." Our officers and departmental staff deserve to be protected, and we support Rick Caruso in his push to keep this issue front and center.

The Police Commission has set a strategic plan for 2003. I will give you some of the highlights I think are critical:

"We believe that with motivation, compensation, encouragement and a strong business model we can significantly improve the state of our internal culture."

- How do we motivate our professionals?
- How do we reward excellence?
- How do we encourage each individual to be passionate about his or her work?
- How do we inspire our Officers to strive to be the best?

"We respectfully submit to you our plan to continue to build and improve the finest Police Department in Ameri-

ca." **Commission goal number one:**

Retain the high-level police officers we've already invested in by creating the tangible, realistic incentive initiatives they deserve. HOW?

- Offer them payment packages that are commensurate with other police forces surrounding our community.
- Create policies and procedures that make the Department an attractive work environment.
- Offer career paths that enable our officers to keep growing and learning, and reward them with greater responsibility and recognition.
- Continue to evaluate the discipline system to maintain professionalism and protect civil liberties-while ensuring fairness in its application.

These are good goals!!!

Alarms Policy Revisions Ring True

In January, the City Council voted to uphold a new police policy that only "verified" alarms will merit a response from the LAPD, despite protests from alarm companies and some of their customers. We applaud this decision, as it will free up our resources that are desperately needed to fight the rising crime rate in our city – not the false alarms that consume the equivalent of 41 officers' entire work years.

Alarms can be valuable tools, but what has been happening begs the question of priorities. Residents and businesses are entitled to a response when someone is breaking into their properties, however the LAPD efforts to fight crime are weakened if they are frequently responding to chronic false alarm calls.

The LAPD is hindered by the false alarms for two main reasons: first, there are a huge percentage of false alarms (92 percent) due to such variables as cheaply made or poorly installed alarm equipment or accidental triggers; second, the Department is significantly understaffed in comparison to the demands made on it.

Because of the improbability that a call will result in the actual need for service, alarm calls receive a very low priority and officers potentially could let down their guard when responding. By revising the policy to institute a system of checks and balances to verify that the calls are true emergencies, the officers can respond more quickly.

LAPD is not the only Department that has called into question its alarm response policy. In 1998, the International Association of Chiefs of Police – the world's oldest and largest nonprofit membership organization of police executives – passed a resolution stating that

false alarms take "police away from real emergencies." In Las Vegas, police have adopted a policy similar to what LAPD now has. Officers respond only to an alarm if there is physical verification either from the property owner or alarm provider that it is a true emergency.

The answer is to on balance provide the best possible realistic police resources where appropriate given a 200-square-mile city policed by approximately 8500 Police Officers.

City Hall Campaign Update

The primary election is coming up fast for City Council Races. **It is MARCH 4th, 2003**

- The PAC Committee has endorsed:
- District 2, Councilwoman Wendy Greuel
- District 4, Councilman Tom LaBonge
- District 6, Tony Cardenas
- District 8, NEUTRAL
- District 10, Martin Ludlow
- District 12, Greig Smith
- District 14, Councilman Nick Pacheco

SOAR Conference

The Board of Directors made a presentation to the command staff at the SOAR conference. We felt that it was imperative to make a presentation reflective of our core issues so that we could receive maximum exposure during this time of re-organization.

I believe we accomplished that and will have ongoing input as to the strengthening of our Department. An important point I want to make sure the membership is aware of is that reengineering teams are being put together. These teams are going to be headed by outside consultants who have an expertise in particular areas. The important part is that anyone at any rank or time on the job can participate and be a part of real meaningful change for the good. I highly encourage your participation and insight by becoming a part of this process. Here are the committees at present: Officer Safety, Use of Force/Racial and Ethnic Attitudes, Role of Detectives, Zero-Based Unit Review (the ideal lapd) Gangs, Training, Career Development, Corporate Identity, Work Schedule, Recruiting, Reserve Officers, Overtime Controls, Budget Decentralization, Civilian/Sworn Relations, Forms and Paper Flow

Get Involved

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LET'S ROLL

Paul Weber

Discipline System Demystified

None of us likes to consider what process we would have to go through, should a complaint be lodged against us. We all strive to do the best job we can, but as in other areas of life, sometimes we make mistakes.

If a complaint is lodged against you, you may not only feel stress from the action itself, but also in the daunting process that lies ahead of you. For anyone who has been involved in this process or is close to someone who has been, you know that the complaint investigation process is like the circus: there are so many hoops to jump through before you get to the big finale.

The good news is that Chief Bratton is working to make revisions to this bureaucratic process. He has revised his management system to shift authority for dealing with citizen complaints from the Chief's office to police captains so less time and energy is spent investigating officers and more on investigating criminals. As he said when he announced these changes in January, "I don't want to get numbers on the board. The numbers I'm interested in are reducing crime and reducing the number of victims in this city."

Bratton decided to make changes in the system both after his own evaluation of the Department – and talking to offi-

cers – and also after reviewing the recent USC/UCLA study "To Serve, To Protect... and To Listen." This study – based on data collected between 1994 and 2000 – found that many LAPD officers avoid situations that might lead to complaints against them because they fear they will be unfairly disciplined. Eighty percent of officers surveyed in the study said they worried about being punished for making an honest mistake. Ultimately, the officers said, the Department should rebuild confidence in its disciplinary system by redesigning the citizen complaint process.

You have or you will have to face a personnel complaint (1.28), so let's start from the beginning in an attempt to demystify this process.

The first step is obviously the lodging of the complaint – it can either come from the public (either as identity known or anonymous) or within the Department (initiated by a supervisor aware of misconduct or with the complainant employee as the victim of the incident). When the Department becomes aware of the misconduct, the statute of limitations begins to run. They have one year to investigate and serve the officer per LA City Charter 1070 and 3304 (D) of the California Government Code. After the complaint is received and a complaint form is generated, it is assigned to the Internal Affairs Group or the Division for investigation.

Investigation/Interview

This is a critical stage, for the employee because your interview in this investigation will be with you forever. The interview will most likely be tape-recorded and if you have an ounce of sense you will bring a competent representative to ensure your rights are protected. The duties of a representative are covered in the MOU, Section 10. The rules of engagement are primarily contained within Section 3300 of the California Government Code and the MOU.

If you are a member of the League's Enhanced Legal Plan, and you believe you need to have an attorney at the interview, contact us at (866) 527-7548. If you are not a member contact Tim Sands (Legal Chair) or me at (213) 251-4554 to request to join. The attorney you see will review the case and advise us on your representation needs. If you go with an employee representative and need a name of a competent representative ask your division Delegate or call the League for advice.

The investigator will complete the investigation and if warranted, submit the case for criminal filing with either the City Attorney or the District Attorney. If you are filed upon or subpoenaed to a grand jury you must contact the League Legal Plan at (866) 527-7548. Depending upon the circumstances, you may be represented by a League attorney.

Adjudication

After the investigation is completed, the subsequent report is forwarded to the concerned employee's commanding officer for review.

The commanding officer can then recommend the following classification for the allegations:

Misconduct: sustained, sustained-no penalty, not resolved, exonerated or unfounded.

Non-misconduct: policy/procedure, chronic/crank obvious mental impairment, etc.

Dispositions: other judicial review, incomplete investigation, withdrawn by the Chief of Police, no department employee or duplicate.

For sustained allegations, the commanding officer can then recommend a penalty, whether it is recommended for a written warning, suspension, or Board of Rights. The accused employee is then notified by his commanding officer or their designee of the results of the investigation and the recommended penalty, which is commonly referred to as the Skelly.

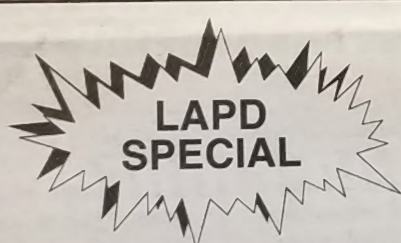
Skelly Process

Skelly is named after a California Supreme Court case, *Skelly v. State Personnel Board*, which involved a tenured state employee who was terminated. He believed, and the court concurred, that a tenured employee deserved to have an opportunity to respond prior to the imposition of discipline. The employee has the right to a representative during this meeting and their duties are outlined in the MOU, Article 10. The employee or his representative must be given a reasonable amount of time to respond to the proposed discipline.

BE AWARE: The Department may, due to statute issues, serve you with your Skelly package and serve you with paperwork imposing discipline concurrently. Although a violation of Skelly, you must preserve your rights to appeal. This requires you to contact the League's Legal Plan at (866) 527-7548, to have a business agent assist you in picking a Board.

After your response is received, or you opt not to make one, the investigation and your response is reviewed by several parties including the bureau command-

continued on page 13



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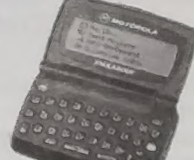
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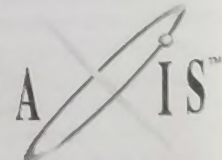
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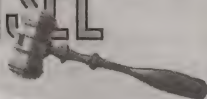
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A MESSAGE FROM GENERAL COUNSEL

by Hank Hernandez, Attorney at Law



Bill of Rights has Teeth Now

Prior to the close of last year's legislative session in Sacramento, Governor Gray Davis signed Senate Bill 1516 ("S.B.1516") into law. Effective January 1, 2003, this legislation added significant teeth to the Public Safety Officers Bill of Rights Act ("Bill of Rights Act").

When a police supervisor or management representative intentionally violated the provisions of the Bill of Rights with the intent to injure an officer, there was very little in the way of remedy available to the injured officer. Under prior law, an injured officer was limited to petitioning the court for injunctive relief to prevent current and future violations of the Bill of Rights Act. Also, under prior law, there were no monetary sanctions against the public safety department for violations of the Act. The worst thing that could happen in a state court proceeding was for the judge to "slap the wrist" of the offending department.

S.B.1516, introduced by Senator Gloria Romero (D - Los Angeles) and strongly supported by the League and other major police organizations, amended the Bill of Rights Act (*Government Code* § 3309.5) by providing that where the court finds that a public safety department "maliciously violated"

any provision of the Act "with the intent to injure" a public safety officer, the public safety department shall be liable for a civil penalty up to \$25,000.00 for each and every violation. This new amendment also allows the court to award reasonable attorneys' fees. In addition, public safety officers whose rights or protections are maliciously denied may also collect any actual damages suffered. Under this new legislation, a public safety department can be liable for monetary damages for malicious violations perpetrated by its employees, agents, or assigns during the course and scope of their duties. However, the new legislation specifies that an individual employee is not liable for an act for which the public safety department is liable.

Because this new amendment to the Bill of Rights Act also contains sanctions for legal actions that are filed in bad faith or are found to be frivolous by the court, we recommend that any officer who feels that his/her rights have been violated by a supervisor contact any Director at the League for referral to one of our panel attorneys for consultation before filing suit against the LAPD.

Be safe and contact us if you have any questions. ❖

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WARNING BELL

by Gary Ingemunson, Attorney at Law

"Never send to know for whom the bell tolls; it tolls for thee"

—John Donne

Planning for Disaster

Picture this. You receive a call in the middle of the night. Your mother has just been admitted by ambulance to the emergency ward of the hospital. You are needed right now. Her condition is serious. You and your spouse throw on your clothes and rush to the hospital. You know that your mother is in the final stages of lung cancer, but it was supposed to be in remission. You have been half-expecting a call like this at some vague day in the future, but, somehow, that doesn't help. You rush past parked ambulances, bleeding people on stretchers, other cops taking reports and head for the elevators to the ICU. Once past the receptionist and firm signs (immediate family only, no more than two at a time, no one under fourteen, ten minute visit only, wash your hands before entry), you get to the room. There she is on the bed. Stabilization is the first priority of the ICU people. To that end, needles feeding powerful drugs that regulate her heart have already been attached and bags of fluid are hanging from machines that are administering just the right doses. An A-line has been inserted into her artery at the wrist to monitor blood pressure and retrieve blood samples. An endotracheal tube has been forced through her nasal passage into her windpipe so a respirator can pump air into her lungs. Mercifully, these devices were in place when you arrive. You did not have to witness the nurses holding her down while the machines were hooked to her body.

You try to communicate with her, to show her that you are there, to tell her that she will be all right, to comfort her, but, although she looks at you, the sedation or the heart damage give her a vacant look. Maybe she can hear you, maybe she can't. She couldn't speak to you anyway because the endotracheal tube passes between her vocal chords making speech impossible. She doesn't need speech, however, to show you that she can feel pain. She winces when needles are pressed into her. Her face contorts with pain when she tries to cough through the tubing in her throat. Her body contorts violently when the nurse shoves another tube down her air passage to suck out the liquids that are condensing in her lungs. The nurse sees your discomfort. "She won't remember a thing," she says, "and you will never forget it."

It is conference time. Still dazed, you are led into a small room by the doctor and an intern. They want to talk to you

about something called "full code." Do you want full code for her, or something less. "How aggressive do you want us to be in keeping her alive?" the doctor asks. They point out, matter of factly, that she is in her mid-seventies with lung cancer. Her heart has likely sustained major damage. Full code would tell them to follow the most aggressive life saving procedures. This means shock treatment, invasive operations, massive doses of powerful chemicals and anything else that might work should her heart stop. If you have been around the street for any length of time, you have seen the paddles. You imagine them applied to her frail body and in your mind see the jolt followed by the spasmodic violent jerk. How many times would they do it? Should she be allowed to slip away in peace? What if the paddles would have revived her? What if the cancer was in remission? What if it wasn't? Would she be revived to suffer horribly for a few months only to die anyway? The doctors are waiting for an answer. They are not making any recommendations. They are just stating facts and asking you to make a decision.

You realize that the person with the most important opinion is missing from this conference. Your mother. How does she feel about this? She can't tell you. She is unconscious and probably will be for some time. Time is something you do not have, the doctors need your answer. They are waiting.

Now flip this scene around. You are in the ICU bed. You are unconscious. Your spouse and children are in the conference room with the doctors. They have to make this decision without your input. If they ask for "full code" and you die anyway, how will they feel about the extra pain they have put you through? If they ask for less than full code, they will always wonder if something left undone would you saved you. They will be second guessed by other relatives and friends no matter what decision they make.

For people in our line of work, the ICU and the "full code" decision are only a bullet or a traffic accident away. You need input. You need to take this terrible decision out of the hands of your loved ones. Fortunately, the law provides a way.

You can execute a Durable Power of Attorney for Health Care. This document expresses your desire concerning your treatment when you are incapacitated and gives an agent (usually your spouse or child) the legal ability to act in your stead. Provisions can range as follows, or

be tailored made to fit your desires

Example #1: I do **not** want efforts made to prolong my life and I do **not** want life-sustaining treatment to be provided or continued: (1) if I am in an irreversible coma or persistent vegetative state; or (2) if I am terminally ill and the application of life-sustaining procedures would serve only to artificially delay the moment of my death; or (3) under any other circumstances where the burdens of the treatment outweigh the expected benefits. I want my agent to consider the relief of suffering and the quality as well as the extent of the possible extension of my life in making decisions concerning

life-sustaining treatment.

Example #2: I want efforts made to prolong my life and I want life-sustaining treatment to be provided or continued.

I am not advocating either position. I am advocating that *you* make the decision, not your loved ones. This is your *Warning Bell* to unburden those who may be sitting in conference with the doctors someday. They can know what you would have wanted if you had been able to speak. It is the kindest thing you can do under these cruel circumstances. I urge you to contact your attorney at once and execute this document.

Be legally careful out there.

SOAR and a Year of Change

by Chief William Bratton



The 2003 Staff Officers' Annual Retreat (SOAR) provided a vibrant and healthy discussion about the future of our Department and exceeded my expectations. The participants, including for the first time sworn and civilian union representatives, were enthused and excited about the opportunity to re-invigorate our organization and make fundamental changes in the way we do business.

This year's retreat established one important principle: the LAPD must be a team enterprise. It was an important step toward the transparent and participatory organization that I am working to establish.

The biggest change to emerge from SOAR will be our organizational chart and chain of command structure. Those changes haven't been finalized and budgeted, but I can provide you with an initial overview of how things are taking shape.

Most enforcement operations will be grouped under Assistant Chief Jim McDonnell. The Deputy Chiefs in charge of the four geographic bureaus will be reporting to Chief McDonnell. Operations-Headquarters Bureau has been disbanded and its functions will now be divided between two new bureaus, each headed by a Deputy Chief, who will also report to Chief McDonnell.

Deputy Chief Mike Hillmann heads Special Operations Bureau. It will absorb some of the functions currently performed by the Uniformed Services Group, including Metropolitan Division, Air Support and Transit Services Group. Chief Hillmann will be able to maximize the impact of the Department's superb special units and achieve goals of reducing crime, disorder, and fear in the geographic Areas. He will work closely with the Bureau Chiefs and the eighteen Divisional Captains.

The new Detective Chief will have two important roles to play. The Detective Bureau will oversee most of the functions of the Detective Services Group, including Robbery-Homicide Division. He will oversee Narcotics Division, which we expect to expand considerably in our efforts to disrupt street gang narcotics activities. The Chief will also lead a far-reaching reorganization of the detective function in the local areas. In the interests of decentralization and local accountability, area detectives will continue to report to the Division. The Chief of Detectives will also oversee a reform of how their work is done, decreasing the volume of redundant paperwork, increasing the number and intensity of field investigations, and getting our highly trained and skilled detective force more proactively involved in arrests and crime prevention activities in the field.

We are also seeking to expand our Homeland Security Operation. My old colleague John Miller will lead this newly created Bureau. He worked with me as a Deputy Commissioner in the NYPD and was one of the principal architects of the NYPD crime reduction strategies. John is a distinguished journalist, an expert on terrorism and the last US reporter to interview Osama Bin Laden. Working intimately with Commander Mark Leap, I expect they will significantly expand the size and functions of our anti terrorism efforts.

Assistant Chief George Gascón will serve as Chief of Support Services, in charge of personnel, training, and information and communications systems. Assistant Chief Sharon Papa will be Chief of Administrative Services, overseeing planning, management functions, budget, facilities and the critical Jail and Property Divisions. Consent decree functions will be grouped together in a Consent Decree Bureau headed by former Police Commissioner Gerald Chaleff. Internal Affairs will be led by a soon-to-be-named Deputy Chief who will report directly to me.

SOAR also provided the opportunity for crime strategy teams to report their findings. The teams are well along in finalizing their recommendations for more proactive and assertive policing designed to reduce the city's crime rate.

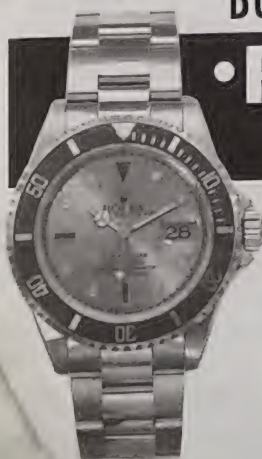
Re-engineering teams will soon be formed to begin putting together strategies to tackle the Department's administrative problems. Union officials, sworn, civilian employees and outside experts will be invited to participate in these teams.

SOAR is just the departure point in what I envision as a year of change that will re-invigorate the Department to get us back into the fight to reduce crime.

I want to thank the Executive Board of the League for the opportunity to reach out to you through the *Thin Blue Line*. In future issues I will try to keep you more informed and involved in the many changes that will be occurring. I intend to work with your Union leadership in an open, transparent manner, always respectful of your contract and your issues, such as the discipline system, which we are in the process of significantly modifying. There will be issues that we agree to disagree about. However, there should be no disagreement that this is a great Department, staffed by highly trained and motivated professionals, who are second to none.

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At this time, depending on the recommendation of the commanding officer, the complaint may take one of several paths. If the complaint is sustained for an official reprimand or other written penalty, you may opt for an administrative appeal. These are currently on hold because the courts have held in other

The Inspector General may review it and the investigation is filed either in the Department personnel package (guilty) or Internal Affairs Group files (not-guilty). This information will be input into the Training, Evaluation and Management System (TEAMS). The primary information available in TEAMS include specific categories of employee assignment/rank history, personnel discipline summary, commendations, attendance, use-of-force information, outside work permit and other risk management topics.

If the complaint is sustained with no penalty, a warning or admonishment, or is classified as something other than sustained, the complainant and the officer are each notified, and the Inspector General may review it and file the investigation. If the employee quits the Department before

League's Legal Plans

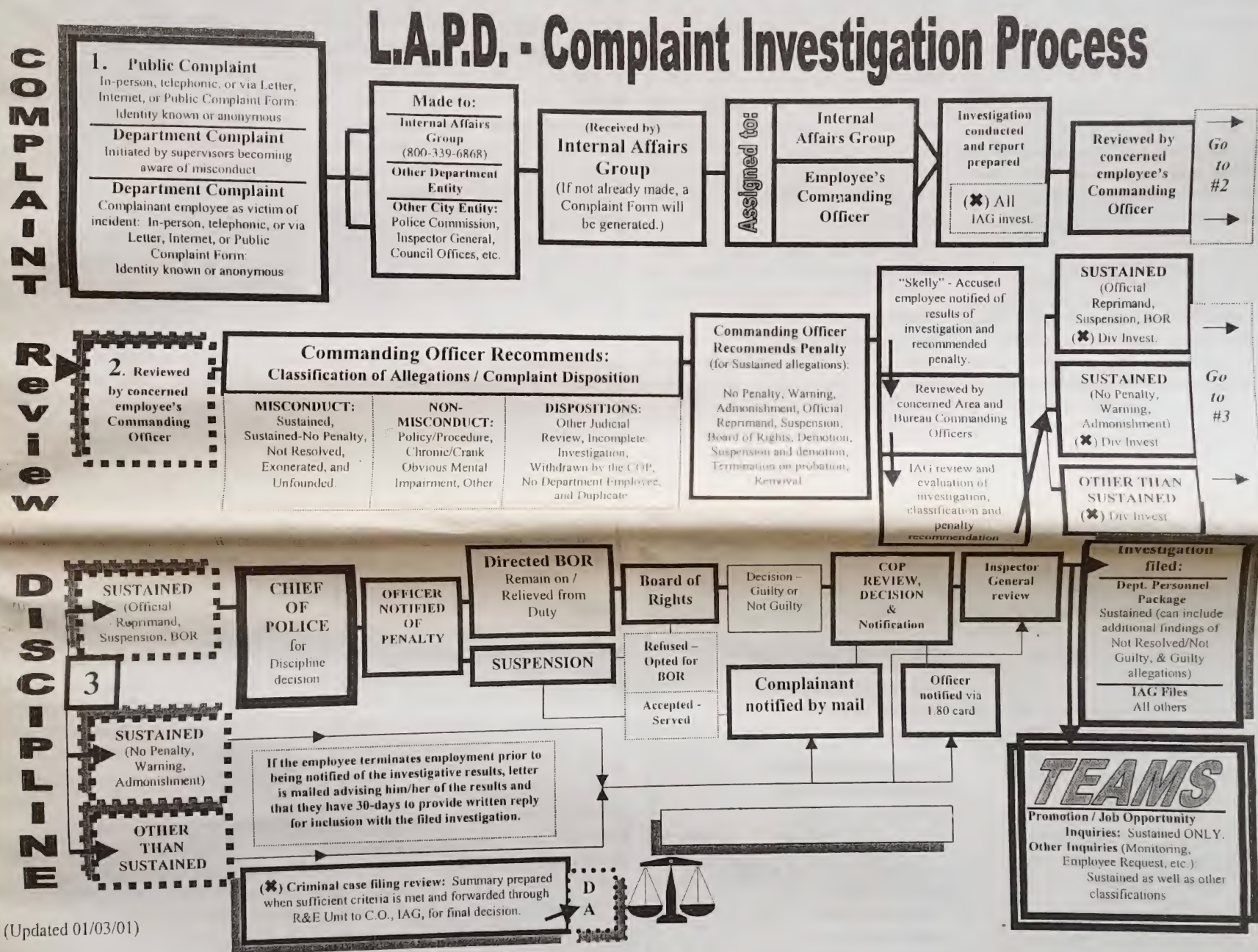
The League Basic and Enhanced Plans provide all members with legal representation at all Boards of Rights. This is due to the removal of on-duty representation at Boards of Rights from the City Charter (Section 1070). This was its designed primary purpose and insures our members are completely represented without the huge out-of-pocket expenses.

The plans include payroll reimbursement within the limitations of the plan. In addition, there is other legal representation under limited circumstances. The Enhanced Plan features additional benefits that are well worth the additional cost. Please contact the League for additional information.

I do not enjoy seeing people hurt, however the primary duty we have as Directors, is to the members. Each of us contributes each payday to the League to ensure its mission is carried out.

We continue to improve our web site! In the Members Only section we have added information explaining the grievance process, grievance flow chart, DROP, and the pension systems. In the near future, I hope to add additional information on our Legal Plan, police legal newsletters, and informative articles from our General Counsel Hank Hernandez and Attorney Gary Ingemunsion. We will also be improving and expanding the web site overall.

If you have any suggestions or wish to be put on the e-mail list, send me an e-mail at paulweber@lappl.org.



(Updated 01/03/01)

If a suspension of 22 days or less is imposed, you may accept them or opt for a Board of Rights. If you are directed to a Board of Rights, you may face more than 22 days suspension and/or demotion or termination. This requires you to contact the League Legal Plan at (866) 527-7548 to have business agent assist you in picking a Board.

The Board is comprised of two command officers and one civilian, who decide after hearing, whether or not the officer is guilty. If found guilty, the officer may present character evidence and his personnel packages will be reviewed.

Court Review

The Superior Court may review under California Code of Civil Procedures Sections 1084-1097. The employee has 90 days after the Chief's final decision to file an appeal with the court. This is an expensive process and requires an experienced attorney. We are fortunate to have Diane Marchant, who helped write the book in this area. She is a great writer and a gifted legal mind.

This Committee is headed by the Legal Chair, and includes other Directors and delegates. They are tasked with hearing requests for legal representation outside the League Legal Plan. This

Why Belong?

This past year I have assisted with the Legal Committee and heard several people request representation or reimbursement for legal costs incurred while they were non-members. Each of them had a reason why they quit, but the fact remained they were not members when the incidents occurred. It seems almost without fail that within days of quitting the League, they get into a jam and need our help. It is like the car insurance you forgot to pay – the chance of an accident appears to increase 1,000%. The Legal Committee recommended and the Board of Directors concurred, to turn

Please feel free to contact you Delegates if you have any questions or concerns. Every month on the first Tuesday we meet with the Delegates to discuss current issues and to pass along information to you. If you have an issue that you want discussed, ask your Delegate to call the League and have a Director address it at the meeting.

After every monthly meeting you should receive a report from the Delegates in roll calls and some may even post their notes. Please join the Board of Directors and take the time to thank each of these dedicated people who help fulfill our motto, "Protecting those who protect others."

You may contact the League Monday through Friday at (213) 251-4554

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letters To The Editor is a regular feature of *The Thin Blue Line*. **Letters must be limited to 350 words or less.** Letters over the limit will be returned to the writer for editing. Deadline for submission is the 1st of the month for the following month's issue date.

Dear Readers:

I would like to tell you a story about a great man. A man of integrity, compassion, teacher, coach, husband, a community hero and most of all a father and friend.

Robert Allen Jackson was born March 6, 1923, in Chihuahua, Mexico, the son of an engineer who was working there at the time. During the Depression, his family moved to Los Angeles, Calif., where he attended Normandy Avenue Elementary School, Audubon Junior High School, Horace Mann Junior High School and graduated from Los Angeles High School in 1940. He went on to attend the University of Southern California and eventually was accepted to the United States Army Air Force where he graduated as a Second Lieutenant pilot from Luke Field, Arizona. Robert Jackson's assignment was to train Chinese pilots in flight combat during World War II.

After his discharge from military duty, Bob Jackson took the exam for the Los Angeles Police Department and was accepted to the Police Academy August 1, 1947. He graduated number one in his class. His assignments included Accident Investigation Division, Administrative Assistant at City Hall, Parking and

Intersection Control, Valley Division, West Valley Division, Administrative Vice, Hollywood Division, Parker Center Jail and he retired as a Lieutenant from West Los Angeles Patrol Division in 1967.

During his career with the Los Angeles Police Department his accomplishments went way beyond that of just a police officer. Bob Jackson founded the White Oak Athletic Association in the San Fernando Valley. A volunteer, nonprofit youth athletic organization, this was the blue print for every Pop Warner and youth baseball organization that has since served the San Fernando Valley. He was a coach, mentor, role model and friend to many of the top athletes that came out of the Valley and went on to future athletic and professional endeavors.

Although this might seem like a lifetime of accomplishments to some, Bob Jackson wanted to do more for those who wanted to learn. During his time as a full time police officer, coach, father and husband, he earned his Bachelor's Degree from Valley State College and went on to obtain his Master's Degree from the University of California at Los Angeles.

Armed with these tools, Bob Jackson retired from the Los Angeles Police

Department in 1967, after 20 years of service, to pursue his lifelong dream of educating the youth of our great country. He began his new career as an academic teacher and football coach at La Canada High School in Los Angeles and Moreno Valley High School in Riverside. He later transferred to Orange Glen High in Escondido, Calif., where he coached football and baseball. Bob Jackson and Margie Jackson fell in love with the Escondido area and decided to make it their retirement home, becoming longstanding members of the Escondido Country Club.

Wanting to use his expertise in the field of Law Enforcement along with his teaching skills, Bob Jackson took the position of Assistant Professor at Palomar College in 1975 and later became the Director of the Criminal Justice Department. He is responsible for the education of many current Law Enforcement Officers in San Diego County.

Robert Jackson retired from his second professional career in 1985 and enjoyed the pleasures of his lifetime accomplishments with his wife of 42 years in the community of Escondido where they had built their dream house and many great memories. He passed away on January 6, 2003, two months short of his 80th birthday.

The life of Robert Jackson may not be written in the texts of folklore for our current generations but the spirit and symbolism of his beliefs and life should be. Love and service to your country, love and service to your community, role model to your family and teacher/role model to the youth of America. He was a man of tolerance who grew up in a generation that many were not. Although no Hall of Fame exists for persons that have made such an impact to their community, perhaps one should be erected and the name of Robert Allen Jackson inscribed in bold letters.

To my father, friend, role model and true American hero, thanks for everything you taught me, and for being such a large part of my life.

Norman Allen Jackson
Retired - Detective
Los Angeles Police Department
Robbery Homicide Division

To Whom it May Concern:

I am not sure who this message will reach, but I hope that it will be forwarded to as many LAPD officers and staff as possible.

First of all let me say that I am sick and tired of the media's portrayal of some of the finest men and women that this country knows. I am tired of television portraying cops as crooked and a city council that should be backing you, instead of stepping on your toes each and every step of the way.

I have read many books and articles on the LAPD and I have lived in Southern California all of my life. You all are kings and queens among mankind and

you fight more battles on the streets, in the courts, and against a city that underfunds you every step of the way. You always have stood for what's right and you continue to fight against all odds against seemingly everyone around you. I grew up believing that this is what heroes are made of, and I continue not to grow cynical of that notion whenever I get the real story behind the everyday heroics of L.A.'s finest.

Ever since Sept. 11, we have said many good things about the New York City Fire Department. God rest their heroic souls. They certainly deserve the praise they get. That day, however, has passed and I for one believe that we need to honor the heroes who are living and working among us as well. We have already erected many monuments for the dead. I believe it is time to erect a monument to those who are on the front lines serving us every day as our earthly protectors. A monument of respect, a monument of honor, and a monument of monetary sacrifice so that you fine people can get the job done. Let this be my piece. A moment to let all of you know that there are people out there who shake their fist not in jeer, but in a cheer of support whenever those sirens light up against those who torment society. There are still many of us who swell with pride whenever we see that proud uniform that is darkened by the blood, sweat and tears of a few good men versus an evil city. I for one apologize for not being as vocal as your detractors.

You are a huge part of what makes this city great. You do more with less than any other group of officers in this country. Thank you ladies and gentlemen of the LAPD. May God bless, protect and richly reward your service. You are in my prayers and at the tip of my tongue whenever some ignoramus bashes the LAPD. If they had a modicum of sense or insight, at the very least, they would hold their tongue. More likely they would praise the brave, kind and true people who make up the LAPD. Thank you for your time.

Steve J. Kelly
A member of the silent majority who still and will always think of you as the best police department in the world.

To: Don Lint, Editor of
The Thin Blue Line
From: Jack Schonely, LAPD Air Support
RE: Letter to the Editor

Please share this letter with your fellow board members. Surprise me by printing this point of view.

Dear Editor,

About five years ago I recall watching the news and seeing gubernatorial candidate Gray Davis standing on a stage arm-in-arm with ex-Mayor Tom Bradley. It could be argued that Tom Bradley was one of the people that held back our department at every opportunity.

continued on page 15

END OF WATCH



NAME: Francis A. Cook #3131
RANK: Sergeant
ASSIGNED TO: Narcotics Division
BORN: April 7, 1917
APPOINTED: October 18, 1943
RETIRED: September 2, 1967
DIED: October 9, 2002

★ ★ ★

NAME: Thomas L. Wilkinson #13812
RANK: Sergeant I
ASSIGNED TO: Van Nuys
BORN: February 2, 1940
APPOINTED: January 28, 1968
RETIRED: February 6, 1992
DIED: December 11, 2002

★ ★ ★

NAME: William E. Guldner #3450
RANK: Sergeant
ASSIGNED TO: Valley Detectives
BORN: January 20, 1919
APPOINTED: September 23, 1946
RETIRED: November 13, 1966
DIED: December 16, 2002

★ ★ ★

NAME: Patrick M. Flanagan #5723
RANK: Lieutenant
ASSIGNED TO: Newton
BORN: March 1, 1923
APPOINTED: June 28, 1948
RETIRED: January 14, 1964
DIED: January 26, 2003

★ ★ ★

NAME: Forrest A. Fisher #6655
RANK: Policeman
ASSIGNED TO: TED
BORN: October 16, 1920
APPOINTED: June 1, 1950
RETIRED: July 26, 1966
DIED: December 30, 2002

NAME: Robert A. Jackson #4833
RANK: Sergeant
ASSIGNED TO: West L.A.
BORN: March 6, 1923
APPOINTED: August 1, 1947
RETIRED: August 24, 1967
DIED: January 6, 2002

★ ★ ★

NAME: Lloyd W. Lindsey #2524
RANK: Sergeant
ASSIGNED TO: City Jail
BORN: January 1, 1918
APPOINTED: October 1, 1941
RETIRED: January 7, 1963
DIED: January 23, 2003

❖

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

ty. It was very clear that Gray Davis was politically aligned with Mayor Bradley. Several days later, I was shocked to read that the Los Angeles Police Protective League was endorsing Gray Davis for Governor of California. Despite the endorsement of my union, I did not vote for Mr. Davis. This was based on my own information of him and my personal beliefs of what a governor should believe in. Gray Davis won the election and was sworn in as governor to a state with a \$10 billion surplus.

Four years of tax and spend politics passed with an electrical crisis which cost the state \$10 billion and counting. As all of this was happening, I would often think about the endorsement by the League and what they saw that I did not. When I inquired about this endorsement, I was told that "labor issues" were the key to the endorsement. I have yet to see anything that the Governor has done to affect me directly in my day-to-day life at work. However, I have seen my electric bill go up dramatically as well as other taxes and fees. This does affect me and my family every day. I have also read about many of the Governor's policies that take away more of my tax dollars.

Despite all of this, the Police Protective League again endorsed Governor Gray Davis for reelection in last November's election. Governor Davis used that endorsement in many of his political advertisements saying, "The police officers of California support me," after which a list would appear that would

include the Los Angeles Police Protective League. What do you think the average voter thinks when they see that ad? I believe that they assume that the candidate is "tough on crime" because the police support him. Is that why the League supported him? I don't think so. Again, I did not vote for Gray Davis, despite the LAPPL's endorsement.

Gray Davis won the election. After the election we all learned that our state's budget was now \$35 billion in the hole. This will require drastic cuts in services and an increase in taxes. These taxes will be paid by every single member of the Los Angeles Protective League, not to mention that our electric bills continue to hit record highs.

I believe that the Police Protective League should not endorse any political candidate outside of the city and county positions that have a direct effect on us and our department. The issues are too numerous for a state position and our endorsement can be easily misused to get votes. Meanwhile, my family and I will try to conserve electricity and start saving for the Sport Utility Vehicle Tax and our increased DMV fees.

Sincerely,

Jack H. Schonely, #24366

LAPD Air Support Division

(Editor's Note: the League membership was surveyed and voted to endorse Governor Davis for reelection.) ❖



LAPRAAC HOME LOAN PROGRAM AND REAL ESTATE SERVICES

Your response to the LAPRAAC Home Loan Program and Real Estate Services have been tremendous. LAPD/LAPRAAC members, families and friends who have bought or sold a home using the program have saved money and raved about the cash rebates. I would like to thank everyone for their complimentary letters and e-mails expressing your money-saving experiences with the program. Our super competitive loan rates, free-credit check and a flat lender fees have made the LAPRAAC Home Loan Program a winner. The negotiating power of a large organization (LAPD/LAPRAAC) creates these cash rebates and incentives.



Each month, I hope to give you information that will make you a more informed buyer or seller of real estate and mortgage services. I can give you information to make you a more savvy consumer and save you money.

WHAT ARE FICO SCORES?

A FICO score is a credit score developed by Fair, Isaac & Co. Credit scoring is a method of determining the likelihood that credit users will pay their bills. Fair, Isaac began its pioneering work with credit scoring in the late 1950's, and since then, scoring has become widely accepted by lenders as a reliable means of credit history into a single number. Fair, Isaac & Co. and the credit bureaus do not reveal how these scores are computed. The Federal Trade Commission has ruled this to be acceptable. Credit scores are calculated by using scoring models and mathematical tables that assign points for different pieces of information which best predict future credit performance.

Developing these models involves studying how thousands, even millions, of people have used credit. Score-model developers find predictive factors in the data that have proven to indicate future credit performance. Models can be developed from different sources of data. Credit-bureau models are developed from information in consumer credit-bureau reports.

Credit scores analyze a borrower's credit history considering numerous factors such as:

- Late payments
- The amount of time credit has been established
- The amount of credit used versus the amount of credit available
- Length of time at present residence
- Employment history
- Negative credit information such as bankruptcies, charge-offs, collections, etc.

There are really three FICO scores computed by data provided by each of the three bureaus, Experian, Trans Union and Equifax. Some lenders use one of these three scores, while other lenders may use the middle score.

HOW CAN I INCREASE MY SCORE?

While it is difficult to increase your score over the short run, here are some tips to increase your score over a period of time.

- Pay your bills on time. Late payments and collections can have a serious impact on your score.
- Do not apply for credit frequently. Having a large number of inquiries on your credit report can worsen your score.
- Reduce your credit-card balances. If you are "maxed" out on your credit cards, this will affect your credit score negatively.
- If you have limited credit, obtain additional credit. Not having sufficient credit can negatively impact your score.

I have a great website that will give you lots of information and insight to your FICO scores. The website is www.myfico.com. Please let me know your thoughts and suggestions.

Thank you for your trust and confidence in the LAPRAAC Real Estate Services and each month I hope to give you more insight and knowledge to help fulfill your dreams and goals in the real estate market.

About the author:

Tiffini R. Hughes specializes in law enforcement real estate services and loan programs. She can be reached at (323) 222-2627 or emailed at tiffini@tiffinihughes.com. The LAPRAAC Real Estate Services Program was developed in 2001 and has since allowed LAPRAAC members discounts and rebates.

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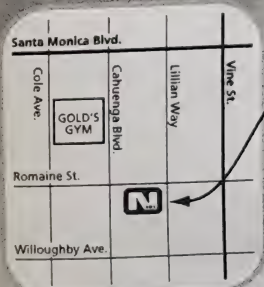
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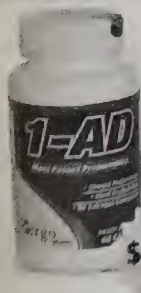
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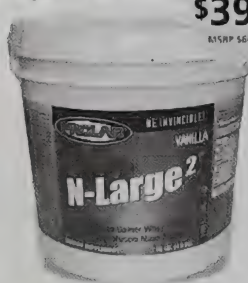
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Weber continued from page 13

or (800) 53-LAPPL. The old LAPPL message line for current recorded League information and to leave messages (20/20) is now (213) 368-7277.

Thanks to LAPD Volunteers

We are all aware of the valuable contributions that volunteers make throughout the year to help in the station and the role that Reserve Officers play protecting the streets of Los Angeles. But, Deputy Chief Kalish took the more formal step at the beginning of the year to recognize the con-

tributions of these important members of the Department with a letter to the hundreds of volunteers in the West Bureau who help keep the Police Department running smoothly. As he wrote in his letter, "Your volunteerism has provided a direct benefit to the Department, our officers and the communities we all serve. Together we have solved crimes, improved the quality of life for our communities and generally reduced the fear of crime. Although major crime has increased throughout the City during 2002, Operations West Bureau has held it to the same rate as last year. This is a sig-

nificant accomplishment."

It is reassuring to see a new attitude prevail at the Department, with appreciation and support being shown to all members of the force, whether volun-

teer, reserve or sworn. We appreciate the job volunteers do each and every day, and I am glad management is taking the time to remind you of this on a regular basis.

Baker continued from page 3

for the officers and the captain in that division. If you have any questions or issues, you should contact this specific Director so that he or she may more quickly address **your concerns**.

As I've said before, we are beginning

a new era at both the League and the Department. There are exciting prospects for improvements that will not only help you do your jobs better, but also benefit our community. We will continue to stand strong for our members and do whatever necessary to make sure we are achieving **your goals**.

Grasso continued from page 4

Reserve Officers, their acceptance by full-time members of the LAPD has been extremely favorable - some Patrol Officers even request to be assigned to work with a particular Reserve Officer. Reserve Officers have received numerous commendations for their actions in the field and are highly valued members of the LAPD team.

As the Reserve Corps continues to increase to its authorized strength of 2,000 members, its presence will be increasingly felt throughout the LAPD and the City. Because they are primarily citizens, Reserve Officers are effective spokespeople in their neighborhoods for the support of law enforcement. Their presence in the Department provides regular officers with an insight into all segments of the City's population.

Members of the LAPD who have been associated with the Reserve Program are continually impressed with the performance and dedication of its officers. It is gratifying to know that members of the community are not willing to play a passive role in making their communities safer; rather they are contributing their time and services and getting involved

for the betterment of their community.

These doctors, artists, pilots, business owners, basketball players (Shaquille O'Neal is a Port Police Reserve Officer) and even politicians like Councilman Dennis Zine are effective spokespeople in their neighborhoods, providing valuable insight into the community for law enforcement, and a voice for law enforcement into the community.

The LAPD Reserve Program, with its high standards and excellent training, is a benchmark for the nation. Used correctly, the program can help increase our community involvement and augment the safety for our communities, which our City leaders are striving to do. The LAPD Reserve Program exemplifies the very best of community policing and is truly a model for the nation in how citizens can serve their community and augment law enforcement in the fight against crime and terrorism.

As we continue to restore the shine to the LAPD badge, we will need the continuing support of the men and women of the LAPD Reserve Program. Not only will our colleagues help promote support for the LAPD within the community, but they will also help us achieve our goal of protecting our communities.



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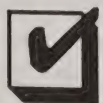
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Purchase Savings \$ 2,025

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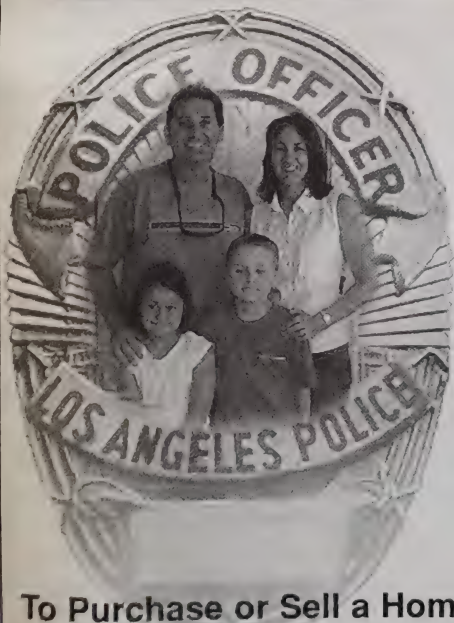


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big money and put cash
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POLITICAL FRONTLINE



LAPPL LEGISLATIVE CORNER

By Timothy H. B. Yaryan - LAPPL Legislative Counsel and Advocate

It's "déjà vu," all over again? Those of us who have been around for awhile invariably have learned the wisdom of Yogi Berra. So, when the Governor proposed eliminating the VLF backfill to cities and counties, I found myself muttering that phrase once again.

A decade ago, when the State went through its last "fiscal crisis," the Governor and Legislature essentially balanced its budget on the backs of local government by "shifting" local property tax revenues to the State's Educational Revenue Augmentation Fund (ERAF). When Proposition 13 passed in 1978, the State "promised" local governments that it would "backfill" the loss of property tax. It turns out that this "promise" had a hidden codicil which was "we'll give you your money, until we need it." In the 1992 budget crisis, of course, the state ripped off the property tax.

So where is the "déjà vu?"

The Vehicle License Fee (VLF or "car tax") was enacted over 50 years ago to provide a uniform state standard for local ad valorem car taxes. Many cities

and counties each had a "car tax" back then which were consolidated in the VLF and the revenues were guaranteed to local government pursuant to the State Constitution. In 1998, at a time when the state had a budget surplus, then Governor Wilson and the Legislature decided to cut the "car tax" with the express understanding that the State would again "backfill" the loss of VLF to cities and counties. Starting to sound like a familiar scenario? The Legislature cutting the "car tax" even provided a "trigger" - a legislative term of art which meant that if the surplus shrank, and the state had a deficit, the full pre-1998 car tax would be reinstated. Well, here's the "déjà vu" part. It's now 2003 and the State has another budget crisis and, just like in 1992, the Governor proposes to help balance the budget on the backs of cities and counties who, by the way, had *literally nothing to do with creating this fiscal mess in the first place*.

What does this all mean to you?

Well, the VLF "backfill" means about \$4.2 billion in revenue to cities and counties, about 2/3 of which goes to fund local public safety. In the City of Los Angeles that means a loss of about \$71 million in 2003 and a loss of about

\$152 million in 2004 - or, roughly speaking, that could translate into a loss of 670 police officer jobs, not to mention the cuts that fire and other essential local services may receive. *With the threat of war - and new incidents of domestic terrorism, with the murder rate up to over 16% and robbery up over 10% - cutting the VLF, and thereby cutting local public safety services is not only foolish, it is downright dangerous!*

There are a lot of important services I do for League members, and a few not so important, *but none so important as saving your jobs and protecting the safety of the public.*

Killing the Governor's proposal to eliminate the VLF backfill and protecting your jobs - is the League's number one priority this year! While the League may have had some differences with Speaker Wesson over his Commission on Police Conduct, *we are fully behind his efforts in ABX1 4 to restore the car tax and defeat state efforts to rip off local governments.*

Taking local government off the table early will not only protect local public

safety but provide some fiscal stability for contract negotiations. Delay is not fatal, because it will still take a majority of legislators - many of whom have strong roots in local government - to cut the VLF but it will seriously impede the progress of any contract talks. I want to reassure you that I think the chances of a state VLF "rip off" are slim at this point. Despite the rhetoric, I think ABX1 4 will pass and be signed into law. I do not see this legislature - either Republicans or Democrats - voting to cripple public safety or other local services by taking the VLF. I also think local cities and counties would prevail in litigation if either of the first two contingencies do not occur. Bottom line - I am confident we will win this fight! You should be concerned, but don't start looking for a new job just yet.

Governor Davis's newly appointed Finance Director Steve Peace recently made headlines by calling VLF the "crack cocaine" of local government. Crack cocaine? Well, Mr. Peace, next time tell that to the police officer who answers *your* call to 911. Now that will be "déjà vu!"

Herb Wesson



League Director Ted Hunt with Herb Wesson, Speaker of the California State Assembly.

Herb Wesson was unanimously elected the 65th Speaker of the California State Assembly after only three years in office. Prior to being elected Speaker, Herb Wesson served as Chair of the Governmental Organization Committee, which includes work with Veteran's Affairs, gaming, alcohol and tobacco. He also served on several business-oriented committees.

Herb is a native of Cleveland, Ohio. Prior to becoming a Member of the Assembly, he served as Chief of Staff to Los Angeles County Supervisor Yvonne Brathwaite Burke and as the Chief Deputy to Los Angeles City Councilmember Nate Holden.

Speaker Wesson Works Closely With League

Herb Wesson holds one of the most powerful positions in the state. He always takes time to work with League representatives in Sacramento to help us bring vital resources back to Los Angeles.

During this budget crisis, Wesson is working closely with the League and

other law enforcement and firefighter associations. "We face the biggest budget crisis in California's history," Wesson said at a recent press conference called by the League, "we're ready to take the first steps to address it in a balanced and responsible way."

"One of the fundamental responsibilities of government is to protect the people—public safety," said Ted Hunt, Chair of the League's Legislative Committee. "Public safety is paid for by taxes. But a large portion of the tax money from Los Angeles heads north and disappears into the vast pit in Sacramento and if we don't go there and fight for our share, it will go somewhere else."

The League has the ability to regularly discuss important issues such as funding proposals with the Speaker and his staff. "This is important," said Hunt. "Because a large part of our paychecks come from the money that is 'back-filled' to the city from the state. We just want our share so we can keep well paid officers on the streets doing their job in the most professional way."

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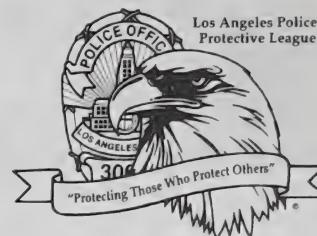
FOR YOUR INFORMATION

For Your Information is a regular feature of *The Thin Blue Line*. We encourage you to submit articles for publication. Deadline for submission is the 1st of the month for the following month's issue date.



LOS ANGELES POLICE RESERVE FOUNDATION

"SERVING THOSE WHO VOLUNTEER"



"I don't know why you guys do this." That's a statement I've heard officers make a hundred times in my twenty one years as a reserve and I must admit there have been times I've asked myself why anyone would do it, be a reserve that is. Often police

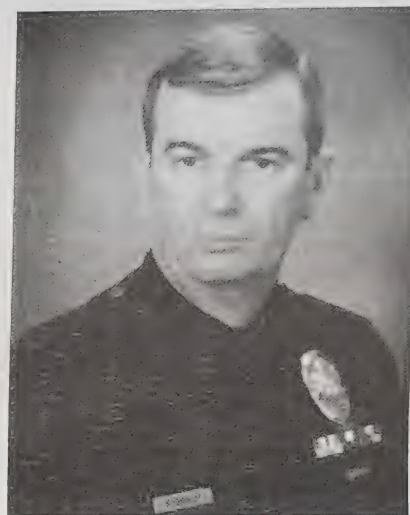
service is as frustrating for reserves as it is for regulars. The hard fought gains that regulars make trickle down to us much later, if at all and we deal with bureaucracies, politics and sometimes the lack of support just as the regulars do. Please don't get me

wrong, I don't believe any of us would trade this unique experience for anything in the world.

In point of fact, we have chosen police work because it is the most unique and challenging form of community service. The Los Angeles Police Officer has set the highest benchmark for service, dedication and professionalism in law enforcement. We reserves have chosen this standard of professionalism as our model of service. Reserves know that the dedication and professionalism required surpass all others. The time commitment is greater and given that reserves are not paid, many reserve officer's families will share in their sacrifice.

However, it is worth it! The rewards of service can only be measured in the heart, and well, perhaps too on the faces of our regular partners. Working countless watches, responding to U.O.s, riots and disasters working side by side with the best, reserves have proven their metal and earned your respect.

We'll take that opening statement as a compliment, an acknowledgment of what it takes and recognition by a part-



President Melvin B. Kennedy, L.A. Police Reserve Foundation.

ner of our efforts. We are committed to support you day in and day out and are honored to wear the same uniform. You see, the greatest compliment a reserve can be given is to be included, factored in and counted on.

Melvin B. Kennedy, President
Los Angeles Police
Reserve Foundation

More For Your Information on next page



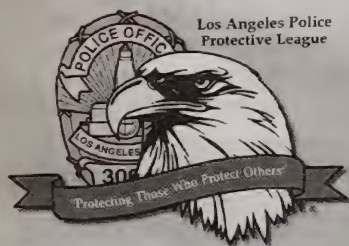
LOS ANGELES POLICE RESERVE FOUNDATION

"SERVING THOSE WHO VOLUNTEER"

The 29th Annual Reserve Officer Of The Year Awards Recognition Banquet

The 29th Annual Reserve Officer Of The Year Awards Recognition Banquet will be held on March 15, 2003, at the Hilton Airport Tower Hotel near LAX. Those individuals who are selected as 2002 Reserve Officers of the Year from your Area will be honored at this event. The Police Protective League has been a sponsor for most of those 29 years and will be again this year.

We invite you to attend and to support your reserve partners. Tickets are \$42.00 per person and will go on sale in February. The joint goal of the Los Angeles Police Reserve Foundation and the Los Angeles Police Protective League is that no reserve should have to pay for his own ticket. If you would like to sponsor one of your Reserve Partners or purchase tickets, please contact your Area Reserve Coordinator or Sgt. Nick Aldana at Volunteer Service Section 213 485 4097



The Los Angeles Police Reserve Foundation

in cooperation with

The Los Angeles Police Protective League

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Saturday, March 15, 2003

6:00 PM Social Hour • 7:30 PM Dinner/Duet Plate

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**Contact your Reserve Coordinator or Volunteer Services Section
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FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Your Extra Stamps Can Help Seriously Ill Children

When Andy Bremner was eight years old, he was diagnosed with cancer. As word of his illness spread, family and friends flooded the little boy with cards and letters. He loved every piece. But when he was sent home from the hospital to begin a long, hopeful road to recovery, the mail stopped. His mom, Linda, understood that the people who had mailed him on a regular basis still loved and supported her son and she also knew how hard it was for people to remember to keep doing it. Life is busy. It is also short.

After noticing Andy's increasing disappointment that the cards and letters he eagerly anticipated each day, the things that took his mind off his pain, had apparently stopped for good, Linda secretly began sending him notes of love and support under the signature of a secret pal. Andy loved it. Cards and letters were medicine to him. They couldn't heal his body, but they could heal his heart. For four years, without fail, Linda continued sending her son mail to help bolster his spirits, to make him smile, and to remind him that no matter how bad things got, he was loved.

Then one day it was over. Andy died and the little boy ended his journey; a journey made immeasurably happier by a steady flow of love letters from someone who cared enough to keep him in mind.

While Linda was going through Andy's belongings, she found two things that changed her life, and now the lives of thousands of seriously ill children across the country: a shoebox filled with every letter Andy ever received while he was sick and an address book with the names and addresses of 20 children he had met at a camp for cancer patients. In memory of Andy, Linda decided to write each child a letter of love and support. Before she could even send the last letter, one of the children responded:

"Thank you, thank you, thank you for writing. I didn't think anyone knew I lived."

Linda realized that in two sentences this child had summed up the desperation, loneliness and isolation sick children endure on a daily basis and at that moment, LOVE LETTERS was born.

LOVE LETTERS is a very small, non-profit, 501-C-3 certified organization of



volunteers based in Lombard, Illinois that sends weekly cards and letters of support to seriously, often terminally, ill children across the U.S. recently, Love Letters added the 5,000th child to the list of children they have supported over the last 18 years. Love letters are sent as a gift of love, and there are no fees involved. The organization is staffed completely by volunteers and no seriously ill child has ever been refused a love letter.

Here is How You Can Help With Something More Precious Than Gold:

Love Letters currently has an active list of more than 1,200 ill children they send letters to each week. There is one thing more precious than gold to the Love Letters volunteers and the children they support: STAMPS AND DONATIONS FOR POSTAGE. They are easy to supply and more helpful to the heart of a sick child than you might ever imagine.

If you feel compelled to support the Love Letters campaign for ill children on any level, please know that NO DONATION IS TOO SMALL! Stamps of all denominations and donations for postage (all tax deductible) can be sent to:

Love Letters
c/o Linda Bremner
837 South Westmore Avenue
Unit B-39
Lombard, IL 60148
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E-mail: Lletters01@aol.com
Fax: (630) 620-5021

If you would like to contact Linda and her staff of volunteers, e-mails, phone calls and faxes are welcome.

Desert Refuge For Peace Officers

Dear Family and Friends of the Desert Refuge:

*Hold fast to dreams...
For if dreams die,
Life is a broken-winged bird
That cannot fly.
Hold fast to dreams...
For when dreams go,
Life is a barren field
Frozen with snow.*

Langston Hughes

On the first anniversary of receiving our Federal Tax Exempt Status (501(c)(3)) it is appropriate to stand on the hill, glance back and then look forward.

This calendar year has been remarkable. Over 100 visitors to the Desert Refuge. The lives of two visiting police chaplains rescued from certain impending emotional disaster. Final acceptance by the Bishop of San Bernardino as a recognized Church organization within the Diocese. We even have a possibility of purchasing 2-1/2 acres of land from an adjacent neighbor if we can get a donor!

We now have \$20,000 in the bank, 5% of our three-year goal of fundraising that will enable us to house 20 for overnight at the Refuge. The City of Los Angeles, by Council resolution has allowed us to become one of the six (6) approved organizations for LAPD Employee payroll deductions. Wow! Rejoice with me and be thankful. God is good and you are generous!

Now let's peer into the future:

Imagine the war-weary peace officer and his/her spouse turning into the gravel driveway of the Desert Refuge for Peace Officers. They are greeted by Fr. Mike (yours truly) and after a few moments of refreshment, shown to their simple yet inviting cottage on the Desert Refuge premises. It's Friday evening.

We gather under the stars for the period of "unwinding" as I give them reading materials and an outline of the weekend. These materials have been tailored to the specific needs they have expressed prior to their arrival.

After a good night's sleep and a relaxed breakfast, we gather among the trees to listen to their concerns, break open the Word of God, consider the actions and ways of thinking that may bring healing and strength to this law enforcement couple.

They gather for a tasty lunch with other couples followed by quiet time to reflect on the morning session. Together,

some gather to pray the outdoor Stations of the Cross, while others choose to relax with good spiritual reading in the library or swinging in the hammock. Another pursues a workout in the weight room, another spends a few hours in the fully-equipped wood shop building a cross for the family home. Others take a hike down an ancient desert road, amazed at the display of desert spring flowers.

After the relaxing afternoon, all participate in a group discussion on a topic of interest to all, perhaps "strengthening police family ties" or "the challenge of avoiding burnout," or an exploration of the "methods of prayer." The exchange is lively and meaningful. After a delicious dinner, we gather at the fire pit to roast marshmallows and view the stars through the telescope while reflecting on the topics of the day.

The serenity and quiet of the Joshua Tree desert leads to a night of extraordinary peace and rest. The early risers join Fr. Mike to watch and pray at the sunrise; eventually, everyone helps themselves to a buffet style breakfast prepared in the spacious kitchen. Good food will help prepare the soul for a day of nourishing spiritual food, outdoor Mass, looking over 15 miles of desert and mountains, lively discussions, poignant talks and leisure time to digest it all.

One by one, the families will depart, having made new friends in the Lord and having experienced spiritual renewal in a unique setting. For that week and many weeks to come, the families will bask in consolation of that well-spent time at the Desert Refuge.

In three years we will house 10; in 8 years, 40; and in 12 years, 60! We can do this and our public safety officers and families need it.

This is my dream and the dream of the wonderful men and women of the DRPO Board of Directors. Please continue to help us to realize this dream. It takes money and friends like you to realize such a dream. Please consider remembering us in your will.

Please pray for the DRPO Board Officer Elections in January, that the fine tradition of leadership established by Bob Kellar and Frank Virgallito may continue. And pray for a rich harvest of healthy officers who want to stay that way; of wounded officers who seek spiritual wholeness and the financial means to provide this place for them.

— Father Mike McCullough ✦

More For Your Information on next page

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Lt. Tony Ward

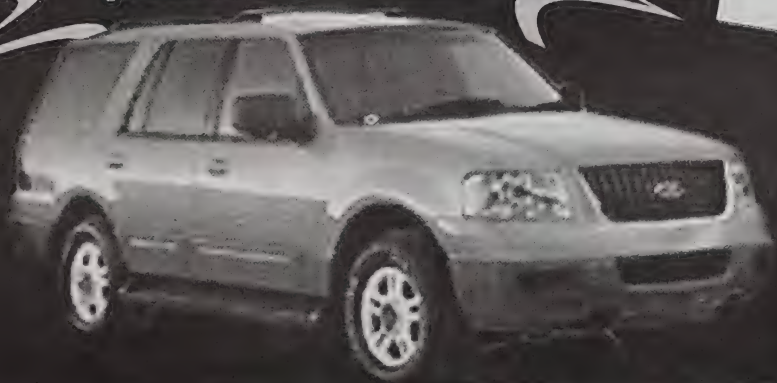
"They (MacPherson Ford) reaffirmed my trust in buying a new car. I was very impressed."

Sergeant Scott Anger


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Deputy George Betor

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FOR YOUR INFORMATION

The Pitfalls of Critical Incidents

by Gary Fullerton, Esq.
January 27, 2003

As partners in the law firm of Fullerton, Hanna & Willis, LLC, Larry Hanna and I have been responding on behalf of the League to the scenes of critical incidents or categorical uses of force investigated by the Department's Critical Incident Investigation Division (CIID). These incidents range from negligent discharges to officer involved shootings. We have been doing this for approximately one and a half years, and in so doing, have observed several problems and pitfalls in the Department's investigative system that needs to be brought to your attention so as to avoid any unnecessary administrative, civil, or criminal liability.

One of the major problems we have encountered is the fact that many officers still choose to be interviewed by the Department *without* representation. The League has consistently advised its members to always have representation at *any* interview in which discipline could evolve. This representation may be by an attorney or an experienced employee representative, depending on the complexity of the legal issues or whether or not criminal issues may arise. But we have seen several instances where officers have submitted to non-represented interviews and have regretted it. Knowledgeable and experienced representation not only will assist in protecting your rights, but can also assist you in *articulating* your actions in the most appropriate manner. Also, receiving advice from an objective person can be invaluable. Many times involved officers "can't see the forest because of the trees", meaning that they

are so closely involved in their own actions and thoughts that they can't see how their actions interrelate with the entire situation.

A related problem that has created problems has been when officers submit to *re-interviews* without representation or without reviewing their previous statement. There have been several instances where CIID has re-interviewed officers without the officer reviewing their previous statement, only to later charge the officer with making false or misleading statements because their second interview conflicted with their first interview. Remember that you have an *absolute* right to review your prior statement *prior* to being re-interviewed and it is essential that you do so. Do not submit to telephonic interviews in which the investigator wants to ask "just a few questions", because those questions invariably are the questions that have created issues of liability. Put off the interview until you can obtain representation and have the chance to review your prior statement. This is not the time to take short cuts.

Another issue that has arisen on a number of occasions is that officers become extremely fatigued while going through these investigations. It is not unusual for an officer to have been working for 18-24 hours before he/she finally sits down to be formally interviewed. The Consent Decree requires only that officers actually involved in an officer involved shooting have to be interviewed as soon as possible after the incident. That means that witnessing officers or officers involved in other types of critical incidents are not technically required to be interviewed immediately. Unfortunately, the Department has

insisted that most involved officers be interviewed immediately, despite the fact they are extremely fatigued.

Studies have shown that a person who has been awake for 24 hours has the mental and physical capability of a person legally under the influence of alcohol. It does not behoove the Department to obtain statements that are not coherent. It is also known that persons involved in critical incidents do not remember facts clearly immediately after the incident. Most jurisdictions throughout the country allow officers at least 48 hours to provide a statement, but because of the pressure from the federal government, the Police Commission, the politicians, public, and the media, the Department feels compelled to force immediate statements. This does nothing but provide distorted recollections that not only create personal liability for the officer, but City liability as well.

If you become involved in a critical incident, you should take stock of yourself to insure that you are physically and mentally capable to give a coherent statement. If you believe that you are incapable because of fatigue or mental stress and the Department insists on an immediate statement, we can go to a contract hospital and obtain a medical opinion that you are medically unable to give a statement at that time. Of course, it is *always* best to cooperate and to submit to an interview when at all possible, but an officer's health and welfare should always be paramount.

In relation to supervisors, if you are the first responding supervisor to the scene of a categorical use of force, you will be closely scrutinized concerning the manner in which you responded, took charge of the situation, and obtained information from the officers. You will be required to provide a statement and your response will be judged up the chain of command. Expect your Commanding Officer to call you in and discuss your actions. Your Commanding Officer is required to submit an evalua-

tion of your actions to your bureau and you could be charged with misconduct if your actions are deemed to be substandard. So do not think that just because you arrived after the use of force that you are immune to liability. Think again before you submit to an interview without representation.

As the first responding supervisor, you will be expected to obtain a *public safety statement* from officers involved in a categorical use of force. Remember that this statement should not be a full account of the incident, but only sufficient information to insure that unknown persons are not hurt and that there has been an account of all involved suspects. The following is a recommended course of action: "Officer, I am ordering you to provide me with a public safety statement because of the immediate need to take action. In what direction did you fire your weapon? To your knowledge, are there any injured persons, and if so, where are they? Are there any outstanding suspects, and if so, what is their description, weapons, direction of travel, and how long have they been gone? Is there any evidence to protect, and if so, where is it? And to order the integrity of this investigation, I now order you to not discuss this incident with anyone, including other supervisors and staff officers, prior to the arrival of the incident investigators, except for your legal representatives." The involved officers must be isolated from the other involved officers as soon as possible and accompanied by a supervisor until the incident investigators take control of the officer.

As part of the League's Legal Plan, an attorney is provided to respond to all categorical uses of force and provide representation to all involved League members. This is an *invaluable* benefit that you may not appreciate until it is too late. Belonging to the League has many benefits. But legal representation at such instances can be a *career-saving* benefit that I advise all officers to obtain. ♦

Los Angeles Police Protective League Announces

20th Annual Scholarship Awards Program

The Los Angeles Police Protective League is proud to announce the Twentieth Annual Scholarship Awards Program which is open to college-bound dependents of LAPPL members, both active and retired, who have held continuous membership in the League for more than one year prior to the dependent's application. Nearly \$10,000 in scholarships will be awarded. To qualify:

- ☐ An applicant must be a 2003 high school graduate with a "C" average or better.
- ☐ The candidate will be judged on his/her scholastic record and extracurricular activities. If qualified to compete, the candidate will be invited to the essay portion of the Scholarship Awards Program.
- ☐ The essay will be held on Saturday, April 5, 2003. **The essay portion will be administered on one day, at one time, and at one location. Applicants must appear in person on that date and time. THERE ARE NO EXCEPTIONS.**

The scholarship finalists will be selected by the League Scholarship Committee.

This is a unique opportunity for the dependents of LAPPL members to earn scholarship assistance for the 2003 Fall college semester. The awards are based on the ability to analyze the essay question and then respond to it in writing.

If you would like to be considered, please complete the form and mail to the League office, **1308 West Eighth Street, Fourth Floor, Los Angeles, CA 90017**. You may also pick up an application at the League office or request an application by telephone at **213-251-4599** or send E-mail to **lisa@lappl.org**.

Very truly yours,
Scholarship Committee 2003

Request for Scholarship Application

Scholarship applications must be returned to the League no later than March 7, 2003. Applications received after that date will be returned.

Applicant's Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip Code: _____

Home Telephone: () _____

Name and Assignment of League member who qualifies you as a scholarship applicant: _____

Serial No.: _____

Work Telephone No.: _____

Retired: _____ Active: _____

Your Relationship to the League member who qualifies you as a scholarship applicant: _____

NOTE: This is not a scholarship application. It is a request form only.

Applications must be obtained from the League Office at:
1308 W. 8th Street, Fourth Floor, Los Angeles, CA 90017

Applications must be received at the League office
by Friday, March 7, 2003

EAGLE AND BADGE FOUNDATION NEWS

Lionel Richie to headline 2003 Gala

Sharon Stone to return

The November 8th, 2002 Eagle & Badge Foundation's (Evening of Unity and Entertainment) starring Julio Iglesias at the Century Plaza was such a huge success, plans are already underway to repeat it again this fall. The black-tie event was exec. produced by Eagle & Badge Foundation President Arthur M. Kassel and he, along with Peter Repovich, E&B Chairman, are already working to make the 2003 event even more successful. Actress Sharon Stone, who will return as auctioneer, and Lionel Richie, who has agreed to headline the entertainment concert, are both friends of Tichi Wilkerson Kassel and committed to the Tichi Wilkerson Kassel Parkinson's Foundation which was a co-beneficiary this year — both have already

joined the Eagle & Badge Foundation.

An Eagle & Badge Foundation membership campaign is currently underway to recruit members and support to provide scholarships and financial support for police officers' children and to fund special scholarship needs of the children in the community they serve. Our Foundation has also made a commitment to support charitable organizations that benefit the community at large such as the Tichi Wilkerson Kassel Parkinson's Foundation, established to fund research and special equipment for those afflicted with Parkinson's, which was a beneficiary this year.

For information, please call 818/994-4661.



Lionel Ritchie and Arthur Kassel.

The Avon Walk for Breast Cancer

A new fundraising event for breast cancer research, detection, and treatment, is looking for volunteers and participants in the Los Angeles area. Volunteer opportunities include office duties, outreach, orientation assistance, public speaking, Get Ready Walk leaders, and event assistance. (September 6-7, 2003). Contact the Volunteer Coordinator, Christine Cahill at (310) 586-1060 or at christine.losangeles@avonwalk.org or visit www.avonwalk.org for more information.

Researching Criminal Justice?

If you are a student researching criminal justice or if research is part of your duty assignment, there are several free sources that you can utilize. One of them is the Sourcebook of Criminal Justice Statistics, which can be found at www.Albany.edu/sourcebook or you can order it for \$9.00 on CD-ROM by faxing your order to 410-79-24358.

More For Your Information on next page

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Comes in great see through zipper bag to keep all of your shoe care needs organized neatly when at home and a small see through zipper bag when you are traveling.

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- 1 Large see through bag with zipper to store your complete shoe care items
- 2 pc Kiwi shoe brush
- 1 pc 2.6 oz Kiwi black liquid shoe polish [75 ml]
- 1 pc 2.6 oz Kiwi brown shoe polish [75 ml]
- 1 pc Kiwi black shoe paste, 1.4 oz [40 gms]
- 1 pc Kiwi brown shoe paste, 1.4 oz [40 gms]
- 1 pc Kiwi large shoe shine express brush
- 2 pcs of 18" x 14" shoe cloth
- 1 pc small zipper travel bag

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Three is Company: Officer recruits three candidates

"I didn't recruit for the money, but it came in handy. I plan to use the money to pay off my credit card," Officer Blas Flores said. Already Officer Flores, who works patrol in the Northeast Division, recruited two candidates, and is in the process of recruiting the third.

Both of his recruits are attending the Academy. Cesar Larios entered the

Academy in November, 2002, and Jimmie Federico began his training a month later. His third candidate, Angel Velasquez is in the decision-making process, Flores said.

Flores is used to a lot of company, and plans to recruit more candidates. "I come from a family of seven children," he said. "My parents immigrated from Mexico in 1974, and neither one of them went to school. My father worked as a janitor and my mother stayed home. You can

imagine that my mother is very proud of me. My father passed away, but I know he's proud of me from heaven," he said. Flores' brother is also an LAPD officer.

Flores grew up in Echo Park and graduated Belmont High School. He joined the LAPD in July of 1999.

"I recruit because I find it to be an exciting career," he said. "Almost every

Flores recalled. Flores, who is fluent in Spanish and is a certified translator, was able to assist her. "We took her and the children to a shelter and made sure they were safe. It was a good day for me because I was able to help," he said.

Flores encourages other officers to recognize potential recruits and invite the candidates to join. "I met my first candidate, Cesar, at church. The second candidate, Jimmie, approached me asking for information. I used to work for his father as a paper distributor

and resigned to become a police officer. He wanted to know what it was like, and now he's in the Academy," Flores said.

The Police Officer Recruitment Incentive Program awards a \$500 bonus to officers who recruit successful candidates. The recruiting officers receive their incentive bonus when their applicants enter the Academy. Thus, 425 officers and city employees applied for the bonus. For more information, contact Janeshia Robinson, (213) 847-9255.



Officer Blas Flores.

little boy dreams of becoming a Police Officer and I am living my dream."

Flores noted that he particularly enjoys community relations and serving people in need. He cites many occasions where he was able to make a difference, but recalls a specific one when he was able to assist a woman in distress.

"We were driving around when a Hispanic woman emerged and flagged us down. She was hiding in the bushes with her kids, and was afraid of her husband,"

LALEY

Latin American Law Enforcement Association

January 30, 2003

Dear Fellow Officers,

In the current race for L.A. City Council in the 14th District, LA LEY will not take a position for or against either incumbent Nick Pacheco or challenger Antonio Villaraigosa. However, we do not want to see a clean and ethical race, free of unfounded accusation and the spreading of false rumors.

There is a rumor currently emanating from the law enforcement community in Los Angeles that Mr. Villaraigosa had a meeting with former police chief and City Council candidate Bernard Parks. The rumor has it that the two have entered into some sort of alliance and, upon being elected, they will seek out revenge for past affronts. The same rumor contends that Mr. Villaraigosa intends to run for Mayor at the earliest possible time and really isn't interested in serving the 14th District. It is also rumored that he will be an adversary of the LAPD, if elected.

I called Mr. Villaraigosa and told him what I had heard and I asked him if there was any truth to this rumor. He told me that none of it is true and that he has never had a meeting with Bernard Parks. He also said that he intends to fulfill all of his duties as a City Councilman and serve the 14th District to the fullest extent possible. Mr. Villaraigosa state that he is very supportive of the LAPD and hopes to work for better law enforcement, if elected.

I do not want to influence the vote of any LA LEY member; nor do I take a stand as regards the accuracy or truthfulness of this rumor. I simply want to let my fellow officers know that I have checked with Mr. Villaraigosa regarding this rumor and share with you his response. I also call upon my fellow police officers, to the extent that any of them may be involved in the spreading of this or any other rumor, to cease and desist. Let's keep it a clean race and let's focus on the real issues of the campaign.

Sincerely,

Det. Art Palcencia
President

\$500!

Bonus

For All Current and Retired City Employees*

POLICE OFFICER RECRUITMENT INCENTIVE PROGRAM

Police Officer Minimum Requirements

- 20 1/2 years old (maximum age limit is 40)
- U.S. High School Diploma, GED, or CHSPE
- U.S. Citizen, or have applied for citizenship
- No felony convictions
- Excellent health

Bonus payment will be issued directly to the recipient as taxable income.

It's EASY to earn an extra \$500!

- First**, recruit someone you believe will succeed in an exciting and rewarding career as a Police Officer with the Los Angeles Police Department.
- Next**, the Recruiter (current or retired City employee) and the Candidate must complete and sign a "Police Officer Recruitment Incentive Program" card (note: bonus does not apply to candidates already in the selection process).
- Finally**, the Candidate submits the card to the test proctor at the time of the Police Officer Written Test, or directly to the Personnel Department (Room 150).

That's it! The \$500 bonus will be processed upon verification of the candidate's appointment to the Police Academy.

Police Officer Recruitment Incentive Program Cards are available at:

Personnel Department
700 E. Temple St., Room 150
Police Department/Employee Opportunity and Development Division
150 N. Los Angeles St., Room 809, and
all Department Personnel Offices

For information call:
(213) 847-9060

*To qualify, the current or retired City employee must be a member of the City Payroll or City Employees' Retirement System (LACERS) at the time the candidate is appointed to the Police Academy. Participants involved in the recruitment, screening, testing, and/or selection of candidates for City employment or Police Officers are not eligible.
(Program effective May 2000)

SAVE THE DATE!

The Los Angeles Police Protective League

is hosting sixth annual

College Day

Thursday, April 10, 2003,
from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Los Angeles Police Academy
1880 North Academy Drive
(Elysian Park/Dodger Stadium)

The purpose of the LAPPL College Day 2003 is to encourage police officers and civilian employees to further their formal education.

40 Colleges will be represented to get officers to improve professionalism and opportunities.

For Further Information Contact Ted Hunt at (213) 251-4554

COLLEGE DAY 2003

Five Star Earns Certified Program Honor

Take a great program — the Chrysler Group's Certified Pre-Owned Vehicle Program — and add the corporation's top-notch dealers — Five Star dealers. The result is a program that, although in its infancy, is already winning consumer recognition.

"We're proud to have been named the best domestic certified pre-owned vehicle program in America* by IntelliChoice," said Ray Fisher, DaimlerChrysler Vice President, Fleet and Remarketing. "It validates our decision to offer the best pre-owned vehicles through the best dealers in the Chrysler Group family. That result is a win-win situation for our customers."

Fisher was referring to a September 2002 review of 23 manufacturer programs by IntelliChoice — an automotive information provider. The company also ranked the Chrysler

Group's certified pre-owned vehicle program the second-best overall non-luxury certified program in America, ahead of such companies as Toyota, Saturn, Chevrolet, Buick, Pontiac, GMC and Volkswagen.

"To be ranked above companies that have been selling certified pre-owned vehicles for quite some time clearly shows we did our homework prior to launching this program. We made sure it contains all of the elements that today's customers want from a certified pre-owned vehicle program," Fisher added.

Available exclusively via Five Star dealers, Chrysler, Jeep, and Dodge Certified Pre-Owned Vehicles are a great value for anyone looking for a high-quality, thoroughly inspected vehicle.

"We're very selective about who can become



a Five Star dealer. We're just as discriminating about which vehicles can be considered candidates for our certification.

In fact, it's limited to late-model vehicles in excellent condition. If the vehicle is over five model years old or has over 65,000 miles, it's immediately excluded, as is any vehicle without a clean history or title," Fisher added.

Once these vehicles pass the qualification standards, they undergo a rigorous 125-point inspection that focuses

on the mechanical, safety and appearance elements of the vehicle.

"Customers expect us to look at those critical elements. However, even such mundane items as a missing spare key or Owner's Manual will be enough to cause us to not certify a vehicle," Fisher explained.

All Chrysler, Jeep and Dodge Certified Pre-Owned Vehicles are backed by an 8-year or 80,000-mile (measured from original vehicle in-service date) Powertrain Limited

Warranty that covers over 250 engine, driveline and transmission components. Should the vehicle require repair to a covered component, the customer's only financial responsibility is a \$50 deductible per repair visit.

During the same mileage/time period, the Chrysler, Jeep and Dodge Certified Pre-Owned Vehicles are eligible for 24-hour Roadside Assistance, covering such items as flat tire changes, fuel delivery, lock-out assistance and battery jump starts.

There's even Car Rental Allowance, which reimburses owners up to \$30 a day should their vehicle be kept overnight for service during the 8/80,000 Powertrain Limited Warranty period.

Certified Pre-Owned Vehicle customers may also purchase one of three warranty upgrades: Added Care, Added Care Plus or Maximum Care for maximum component coverage.

"Making this program exclusive to our Five Star dealers ensures our customers are receiving the absolute best customer treatment. I'm really happy to see an independent outfit like IntelliChoice recognized the hard work of all the folks that helped put our program together. We will strive to make the program even better next year," Fisher concluded.

*IntelliChoice Inc. (www.IntelliChoice.com) September 2002 review of 23 manufacturer programs. Domestic brands are both originated and based in the United States.

**First, they earned their stars.
Now they've earned their stripes.**



IntelliChoice rated Chrysler, Jeep, and Dodge's Five Star Certified Pre-Owned Program ahead of Toyota, Saturn, Ford, Chevrolet, Buick, Pontiac, GMC and Volkswagen*.

Now Blue Line readers can take advantage of Five Star's award-winning 8-Year/80,000-Mile Powertrain Limited Warranty,[†] 125-point inspection, 24-hour Roadside Assistance,[‡] Car Rental Allowance[§] and more. Just call 1-949-636-2555 for complete details.



Brand spankin' used.

[†]Warranty runs 8 years from date vehicle was new or 80,000 miles on odometer. A deductible applies. For more details and a copy of the limited warranty, see dealer or call 1-800-677-5STAR. Availability may vary by dealer.

[‡]Administered by Cross Country Motor Club, Inc., Medford, MA 02155. You must call 1-800-521-2779 for prior authorization to receive these benefits. [§]Rental car coverage only if repairs take vehicle out of service more than one day.

*IntelliChoice rated DaimlerChrysler's Certified Program for Chrysler, Jeep and Dodge among the best non-luxury pre-owned programs in America, ahead of Ford, Mercury, Chevrolet, Buick, GMC, Saturn, Toyota, Volkswagen and Hyundai.

IntelliChoice rated DaimlerChrysler's Certified Pre-Owned Program for Chrysler, Jeep and Dodge the best domestic non-luxury pre-owned program in America (ahead of Ford, Mercury, Chevrolet, Buick, GMC and Saturn).

Domestic brands are both originated and based in the United States. IntelliChoice Inc., (www.IntelliChoice.com) September 2002 review of 23 manufacturer programs.

CarFax is a registered trademark of CarFax, Inc. Chrysler, Jeep and Dodge are registered trademarks of DaimlerChrysler Corporation.



VETERAN'S CORNER



American Legion News

Commander Richard Ledesma

Meeting: 3rd Tuesday,
6:30pm - Panorama City
Post #817
13553 Reedley Avenue
Panorama City, CA 91402
(818) 781-2261

Adjutant Frank Ortiz
160 N. Glendora Avenue
Covina, CA 91724
Hm: (626) 331-4271



Editor:
"J.J." Leonard
(818) 992-1414



Past Police Post Meeting

For those "who weren't there" here's who you missed: J.J. Leonard, Richard Kalk, Bill Zimmerman, Hal Yarnell, Frank Ortiz, Richard Ledesma, Gail Tam, Mike Reagan, Bob Reeves, Frank Torres, Samuel Mells, Boris Ming, Ray Elmer, Glen Kalley, Emmett Drennen, Clint Erickson, Rob Welborn, and George Aguilar (names are printed in order of arrival at meeting or in the order they signed in!). The meeting was closed in honor of **Bob Williamson's** father, who was a U.S. Army WWII veteran of Guadalcanal and a Korean veteran who marched back from the Chosin Reservoir, God rest his soul.

The Cheer

There was not one empty pew in the cathedral. An honor guard of soldiers, firemen and policemen surrounded the flag-draped coffin. A bishop, archbishop and cardinal led the requiem mass. A tall, graying priest rose to deliver the eulogy.

"I'm here to talk about Cliff, **Cliff Thompson**," Father John F. X. O'Toole said. "I knew him very well. We went to high school together, played on the same football team. Cliff was a solid tight end. He was about six feet tall. Weighed about 180 pounds then. He blocked like a steam roller and was a magnet for my passes. He ran like a swift, single-minded deer with cleats. In our first varsity game, Cliff and I ran onto the field with the offensive team. After Eddie Newsome's two short runs loosened up the defense, I called a pass play. Cliff was my prime receiver. "Cliff blocked a line-backer, then quickly cut in toward the center of the field where my first pass was waiting for him. He caught his first varsity pass and was immediately hit, knocked to the ground and fallen upon. He heard the loud crack over the cheers of the crowd. As he tried to get to his feet, the pain smacked him down again.

Our trainers rushed out, gave him their supporting shoulders and carried him to the sidelines, where they put his leg in a splint. Cliff never heard their full diagnosis or their instructions for caring for his broken leg. He just knew the leg required some surgery, pins and a cast. And that he'd be sidelined for most of the year.

However, what he did hear and see were the cheerleaders in their letter sweaters, egging on the crowd to cheer their wounded warrior: "Yea, Cliff! Yea, Thompson! Yea, yea, Cliff Thompson!" Cliff was out for about eight weeks but he made the most of his time and his cast. All the big jocks signed it. And so

did the giggly girls. The cast and his crutches gave Cliff greater visibility. And Cliff played it for all it was worth.

When he finally returned, Cliff did so well in the final games, and the championship game, that he earned a football scholarship. He studied business with the Wolverines at the University of Michigan. I studied God and man with the Jesuits at Boston College. On TV, we saw Cliff run out on the field in the Rose Bowl game. We saw his picture with the offensive squad graphics. And we saw his five catches, two for touchdowns, in replays and on all the late night sport shows. He was even interviewed on ESPN's Sportcenter.

But somehow, all that glory never equaled the thrill of hearing the high school cheerleaders praise him by name. He replayed that memory over and over in his mind's ear: "Yea, Cliff! Yea, Thompson! Yea, yea, Cliff Thompson!"

After college, he got a good job in sales management and became "Sales Manager of the Year." He graciously accepted his personal trophy and large bonus check and the polite applause. But, again, there were no cheerleaders.

Cliff enlisted in the U.S. Army, graduated from Officers Candidate School and fought with valor in Vietnam. The Secretary of the Army pinned the Silver Star on his chest and Cliff returned the salutes of generals. He told me how honored he felt, but, "you know, it's no like hearing those cheerleaders."

On Sept. 11, 2001, he arrived very early at New York City's Twin Towers. He was there to celebrate his promotion to Major at a brunch at The Windows on the World Restaurant. Cliff arrived just before that first hijacked airliner hit the first tower. He ran into the smoking, battered building and joined fireman and policemen, helping crowds of people escape that massive smoking toaster.

He didn't get out alive. His body was recognized by his shiny new Major's gold leaves and by the three scars in his leg, where the oddly placed stainless steel pins used to be.

Again, Cliff Thompson was a hero. And again, he didn't hear the recognition he really wanted to hear. So let this parish priest play cheerleader right now in this most holy sanctuary. Let's hear it now for a great hero and one of God's finest men!

"Yea, Cliff," the padre said, throwing his fist into the air. The congregation yelled "Yea, Cliff!" "Yea, Thompson!" Everyone screamed, "Yea, yea, Cliff Thompson." The organist played the honor guard snapped to attention. Women sobbed and men held back tears.

Dumb as a Box of Rocks

When his 38 caliber revolver failed to fire at its intended victim during a holdup in Long Beach, California, would-be robber James Elliot did something that can only inspire wonder: He peered down the barrel and tried the trigger again. This time it fired.

An American

You probably missed it in the rush of news last week, but there was actually a report that someone in Pakistan had published in a newspaper an offer of a reward to anyone who killed an American, any American. So an Australian dentist wrote the following to let everyone know what an American is, so they

would know when they found one.

An American is English, or French, or Italian, Irish, German, Spanish, Polish, Russian or Greek. An American may also be Canadian, Mexican, African, Indian, Chinese, Japanese, Australian, Iranian, Asian, or Arab, or Pakistani, or Afghan. An American may also be a Cherokee, Osage, Blackfoot, Navajo, Apache, or one of the many other tribes known as native Americans. An American is Christian, or he could be Jewish, or Buddhist, or Muslim. In fact, there are more Muslims in America than in Afghanistan. The only difference is that in America they are free to worship as each of them chooses. An American is also free to believe in no religion. For that he will answer only to God, not to the government, or to armed thugs claiming to speak for the government and for God.

An American is from the most prosperous land in the history of the world. The root of that prosperity can be found in the Declaration of Independence, which recognizes the God given right of each man and woman to the pursuit of happiness.

An American is generous. Americans have helped out just about every other nation in the world in their time of need. When Afghanistan was overrun by the Soviet Army 20 years ago, Americans came with arms and supplies to enable the people to win back their country. As of the morning of September 11, Americans had given more than any other nation to the poor in Afghanistan.

Americans welcome the best, the best products, the best books, the best music, the best food, the best athletes.

But they also welcome the least. The national symbol of America, the Statue of Liberty, welcomes your tired and your poor, the wretched refuse of your teeming shores, the homeless, tempest tossed. These in fact are the people who built America. Some of them were working in the Twin Towers the morning of Sept. 11, earning a better life for their families. I've been told that the World Trade Center victims were from at least 30 other countries, cultures, and first languages, including those that aided and abetted the terrorists.

So you can try to kill an American if you must. Hitler did. So did General Tojo, and Stalin, and Mao Tse-Tung, and every bloodthirsty tyrant in the history of the world. But, in doing so you would just be killing yourself. Because Americans are not a particular people from a particular place. They are the embodiment of the human spirit of freedom. Everyone who holds to that spirit, everywhere, is an American.

National Fallen Heroes

Our nation mourns the loss of our Challenger crew, true modern day heroes. They knowingly face harms way when they put on their space suits as we do, when we gear up in our Police uniforms.

We as a nation, feel for the families who have lost their loved ones. We pray that they can find comfort in that our nation does not forget its heroes. The Challenger crew has entered the pages of History as true space explorers of the world, giving the ultimate price for the advancement of all mankind.

Commander Larry Wible of Post #206 assisted Commander Richard Ledesma in lowering the flag at the Police Museum

to half-mast honoring our National Fallen Heroes.

You got mail?

IF YOU ARE NOT GETTING YOUR MAIL FROM THE POST OR ANY OTHER ORGANIZATION CALL THEM. IT IS PROBABLY DUE TO:

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Call the adjutant Frank Ortiz (626) 331-4271 with your new mailing address or questions on membership.

Los Angeles Police Department Manual

Vol. 3-636.30 VETERANS EMBLEM. As a means of displaying veterans' status, one discharge button or one official emblem of a veterans' organization (such as the American Legion) either of the Armed Forces of the United States or an ally friendly to the United States at the time of service, may be worn at the top left corner of the left pocket of the uniform shirt.

On a Patriotic Note... Let Freedom Ring. "Is Military Duty Really a Job?"

There are still some people who do not understand why military personnel do what they do for a living. This exchange between Senators John Glenn and Howard Metzenbaum addresses the question very well. Not only is it a pretty impressive impromptu speech, but it's a good example of one man's explanation of why men and women in the Uniformed Services do what they do for a living. On the other hand, it is also a rime example of what those who have never served think of the military.

Senator Metzenbaum posed the following question to Senator Glenn: "how can you run for the United States Senate when you've never held a real job?"

Senator Glenn replied: "I served 23 years in the United States Marine Corps. I served through two wars. I flew 149 missions. My plane was hit by anti-aircraft fire on 12 different occasions. I was in the space program. It wasn't my checkbook; it was my life on the line. It was not a nine to five job where I took time off to take the daily cash receipts to the bank. I ask you to go with me, as I went the other day, to a veterans hospital and look those men with their mangled bodies in the eye and tell them they didn't hold a job.

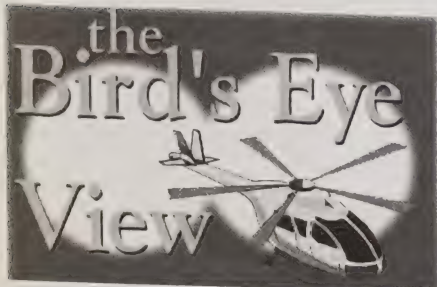
You go with me to the space program and go as I have gone to the widows and orphans of Ed White and Gus Grissom and Roger Chaffe and you look those kids in the eye and tell them that their dad didn't hold a job. You go with me on Memorial Day coming up and you stand in Arlington National Cemetery, where I have more friends than I'd like to remember and you watch those waving flags. You stand there, and you think about this nation, and you tell me that those people didn't have a job.

I'll tell you, Howard Metzenbaum, you should be on your knees every day

continued on page 41

DIVISIONAL REPORTER

Divisional Reporter is a regular feature of *The Thin Blue Line*. Divisional Reporters may submit one report per Division for publication. Deadline for submission is the 1st of the month for the following month's issue date.



by Jack H. Schonely
Air Support Division

Pilot Selections

Three officers and a lieutenant will begin pilot training on February 10. Lt. **Rich Dyer** has been at ASD for several D.P.'s now and has gone through some Tactical Flight Officer training. He has been anxiously awaiting the pilot oral process to be completed so he can get behind the stick of a Jet Ranger. Well,

the waiting is over. **Butch Stowell**, **Kevin Standage**, and **Adam Greenburg** will enter helicopter pilot training with Lt. Dyer. Many long days at ASD followed by hours of study at home is what these four will face for the next six months. Congratulations and best of luck to all of you.

Mark Your Calendars

Air Support Division will hold its third annual Dining In at the Los Angeles Police Academy on Tuesday, Sept. 30, 2003. This year's keynote speaker will be **Sean D. Tucker**. Mr. Tucker is arguably the best aerobatic pilot in the world. He performs at air shows around the country most of the year and is one of the most popular draws at Oshkosh every summer. His experience and knowledge of aviation is incredible and he is very anxious to share some of this with all of us in September. We are going to give Sean all the time he needs

in order for all of us to enjoy this great opportunity. We would really like to see more past members of the ASD family come back to L.A. for this special night. More information will follow in upcoming *Blue Line* articles. In the meantime, try and get to an air show near you and check out the bright red biplane sponsored by Oracle with Sean D. Tucker at the stick. Contact myself or **Pat McNamara** if you have any questions about this year's Dining In.

ASD Tip of the Month

We are over critical incidents every day where a lot is happening on the ground. Many times we are communicating information to ground officers about what we are observing so that they can make the tactical decisions necessary for a safe conclusion to the incident. If at any time during the incident you feel that the flow of information is interfering with what you are doing, please just let

us know. A simple "stand by air ship we are formulating a plan" will let the TFO know that you have received the info and are working the problem. If a TFO is communicating important observations and does not hear any response from any officer on the ground, *that TFO is obligated to update or repeat the information for officer safety*. We are hundreds of feet above your calls and many times do not have all the information you have. Please communicate as much vital information as you can so our TFOs can optimize their efforts for you. I have said this numerous times in the past that all of us at Air Support take our jobs very seriously and want to assist all of you in getting your job done safely. *Your safety* is important to us, and if it means repeating something ten times to make sure you received it, that's what we will do. It only takes a second to acknowledge a broadcast. Always watch your six. ♦

Northeast corner

by Susan Loera
Northeast Division

Commendable Caper

On Dec. 28, 2002, Officers **Amancio** and **Placencia** received a radio call of a "Robbery suspect there now." Officers **Marinelli** and **Duarte** responded to assist. Upon arrival, the officers were informed the person reporting the call had been robbed earlier in the day at a nearby park. During the robbery, the victim's vehicle and money had been taken at gunpoint. The victim advised the officers that he recognized one of the suspects, believing the suspect lived in the area. While searching the area for his stolen vehicle, the victim observed the suspect park a different vehicle and quickly walk away. The victim then called the police.

While Officers **Amancio** and **Placencia** began to check the area, Officers **Marinelli** and **Duarte** established a post of observation on the suspect's vehicle still at scene. While checking the area of San Fernando Road and Figueroa Street, Officers **Amancio** and **Placencia** observed the victim's stolen vehicle traveling eastbound on Avenue 22. The driver observed the officers. He immediately abandoned the vehicle and ran. The officers engaged in foot pursuit and broadcast a request for backup. Officers **Marinelli** and **Duarte** heard the broadcast and quickly responded to assist. A perimeter was established and a search was conducted of the area. Officers

Marinelli and **Duarte** quickly responded back to the suspect's vehicle. Based on their experience and expertise, the officers believed that the suspect might return to his own vehicle. The officers' hunch was confirmed as the suspect walked up to the vehicle. Officers **Marinelli** and **Duarte** took the suspect into custody.

Thanks to these officers' super keen tactical sense in apprehending fleeing felons, a dangerous robbery suspect was removed from our Northeast streets. Thank you, officers, for a job well done.

Employees of the Year

Volunteer of the year is **Ralph Surdo**. Ralph has dedicated his time to the department assisting in giving back to the community where possible. The Civilian of the Year was chosen for her self-motivation. **Angie Turrietta**, #E9601, not



Property Officer Terry Alvarez and Detective Carrillo hard at work.

only completes her own assigned tasks, but assists any area where she is needed. Officer **Robert Rodriguez**, #24946, received Employee of the Year for his dedication and service to Community Policing. Detective **Cynthia French**, #23988, is Detective of the Year due to her outstanding investigative skills. Sgt. **Stephen Cunningham** received Sergeant of the Year due to outstanding



Civilian of the Year, with 15 years of service, Angie Turrietta.

supervisory skills. Sgt. Cunningham is respected by all of his peers and admired by the officers he supervises.

New Arrivals

Property Officer **Terry Alvarez** is proud to report that on Sept. 25, 2002, **Juliana Zolfo** was born. Juliana is Terry's first grandchild. Terry's daughter Nicole is doing well after giving birth to the 7 lbs. 11 oz. bundle of joy. Congratulations!

Congratulations to Officer **Aydee Koenig** and husband Officer **Arturo Koenig** on the birth of their son. Baby **Nathan d'Argence Koenig** was born on Jan. 8, 2003, at 12:00 p.m. at 6 lbs. 3 oz. Nathan and Aydee are doing outstanding. This shows that two officers can work together and complete a phenomenal task.



Baby Juliana Zolfo, born 9/25/02.

Coming and Going

Coming to join our "happy NOE family" is Lt. **McClure** from ND, Det. **Milewski** from IAG, Sgt. **Gallegos** from Wilshire, Sgt. **Martin** from Rampart, Sgt. **Mezquita** from Southwest, Officer **Vinluan** from 77th. Welcome to all of you.

Leaving Northeast is Sgt. **Goyen** to Hollywood, Det. **Emme** to Juvenile, Officer **Chavez** to STD, Officer **Martinez** to Southwest, and Officer **Armendariz** to Van Nuys. You will all be greatly missed by all your friends at Northeast.

A special welcome back goes out to **Pat Zamora**. Pat has been off sick for a few months and has finally made her way back to us. Pat works very hard in Northeast Detectives, and she has been greatly missed. Don't worry, Pat, they saved all the work for you. ♦

More Divisional Reporter on next page

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DIVISIONAL REPORTER

Southern Tip

by Cumbia Cop
Harbor Division

Changes

Lots of changes as we can see in Transfer Orders No. 1 and No. 2. The changes are as follows for Transfer Order No. 1: Incoming P-3 **Charles Lockett** left West L.A. Division to be a Det. 1 here in the Harbor; a good guy, Sgt. 1 **Scott Engedal** left Southwest Division to return once again to us; P-3 **Tarriel Hopper** left Southeast Division to see the Southern Tip; P-2s **Anthony Balderama** and **Ruben Vega** left Personnel Division to join Harbor; P-2 **Jason Blakely** jammed from Wilshire Division to call the Harbor home for now; and a shiny new P-1, **James Stover**, was sent over (Red Rover) from Training Division. Two really cool upgrades for two really cool guys: Congratulations to new P-3s **Vince Albano** and **Andrew Chao**.

Leaving the Harbor was another cool guy, Sgt. 1 **Leonard Avalos**, now calling Jail Division-Metro home; Sgt. 1 **Loretta Monk** left us to check out West L.A. Division; P-2 **Jason Pedro** is now cruising it in Hollenbeck Division; and my

todayo **Judah "Rico tan Suave" Ramirez** left us to make Det. 2 at North-east Division.

Transfer Order No. 2 gave us these changes: Incoming to Harbor was my good buddy Det. 1 **Julie Rodriguez**, now a Sgt. 1; P-3 **Daniel Burzumato** came in from Rampart to be Det. 1. So did P-3 **Linda Heitzman**, coming in from Southeast to be Det. 1. Returning to us from 77th Division is Det. 1 **Paula Chavez**, "Hey Girl!"; Congrats to P-3 **Melody Hainline** in from 77th Division, now our new P-3+1. In from Hollenbeck Division is P-2 **Kristin Koskelin**, now a new P-3; more congrats to P-2 **James McCarthy**, who upgraded to P-3. Outgoing to new places was Det. 1 **Cheryl Kent**, now a Sgt. 1 in West L.A.; P-3 **Adam Broder-**

ick left to work Management Services Division; P-3 **Jeff Nelson** is now working the ocean front at Pacific Division; a threesome headed to 77th Division were P-2s **Robert Canizales**, **Adam Niebergall**, and **Randy Yoshioka**; P-2 **David Manriquez** left for Southeast Division; and P-2 **Cesar Rivera** headed north-bound to Southwest Division. Congratulations to one and all on your upgrades, your new experiences at other divisions, and welcome to the Harbor!

Shout Outs

Some people that need to be mentioned, perhaps for the first time, or maybe this is a repeat. Out on bonding leave is P-2 **Jaime Cortes**, P-2 **Ryan Williams**, and P-3 **Dan Jenkins**. Congratulations boys, on the new additions to your families. How about some "hurry up and heal" wishes for the following folks due to surgeries, injuries (etc., etc.) to Sgt. 1 **Gary Bean**, P-3

Herbie Cirilo, P-3 **William Erkelens**, D-3 **Charles "Chuck" Hawley**, P-3 **Fred "Tony" Lobato**, P-2 **Tracie Noggle**, and P-3 **John Tabares**.

Community Relations

In January, 2003, over 150 volunteers gathered at Harbor Station on Martin Luther King Day. They came to participate in a large-scale cleanup of the grounds surrounding Harbor Station. Their efforts were the first of several to come, efforts that are all part of a project started as a result of Harbor Area Office P-3 **Art Ibarra's** vision. Officer Ibarra, who handles the Work Release Program at Harbor Station, saw the need for a revamping of the station grounds. Through collaboration with the San Pedro Volunteer Center, connections were made which resulted in the beginnings of a significant "makeover" of the grounds in front of Harbor Station. The project is scheduled to be completed April, 2003, and will include new plantings of greenery in front of the station. A living 9/11 Memorial and press release area, complete with a permanent podium, sprinklers, low voltage lighting and a beautiful memorial plaque, comprised of a collage of pictures from 9/11, will be the focal point of the project. One of the main contributors to this project has been the Jewish Federation. On Feb. 2, 2003, members from the Federation spent a few hours planting seedlings at Harbor Station in celebration of Mitzvah Day, a day of good deeds. We'll have more pictures to show upon completion of the station's cleanup and 9/11 memorial.

In Closing

I would like to wish everyone happy spring, 2003, and as always, please remember to be smart, be safe, be sound, and always keep on dancing. ♦



First to Know, Last to Go!

Department Command Post
& Communications Div.

by Lt. Chuck Mealey
Communications Division

Communications Division has completed its move to the Metropolitan Dispatch Center (MDC) and is now in full operation. The final cut-over was made at 0700 hours on Wednesday, January 22. It was transparent to the patrol officers with the exception of the new and improved alert tones. The radio system is designed to work exceptionally well with the human voice, but not necessarily beep tones. After becoming lost a couple of times in the new center and

getting locked in the stairwells; all the officers and PSRs are now becoming oriented to their new home.

The Department Commander, whose office is at the MDC, now has oversight of the Department Command Post (DCP) and the related notification process.

Welcome

We welcome to the Department Command Post Sgt. **Ward Jenkins** from Central. Also **Joseph Lloyd** (from Dev) and **Candice Duke** (from Hbr). We say goodbye to **Aurora Martinez** who is off to West Valley.

Capt. **Andrew (Andy) Smith** has taken over the helm of Communications Division and is now deeply involved in the world of radio and 9-1-1 calls.

Field officers are more than welcome to drop in and check out the new center and meet the PSRs who have your safety as their highest priority. ♦



New MDC - "It's like dispatching in a concert hall."



Old Communications dispatch floor now empty.



Sergeant Matt Mulvihill, PSR Beverly Enriquez, and Angela Dominguez getting to know the MDC.

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More Divisional Reporter on page 30

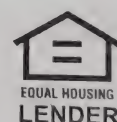
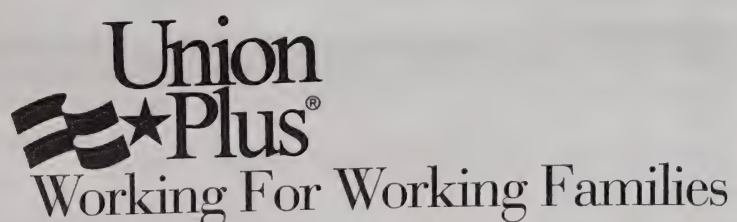
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DIVISIONAL REPORTER

Out of the Great Southwest

by Sharon McTiernan
Southwest Division

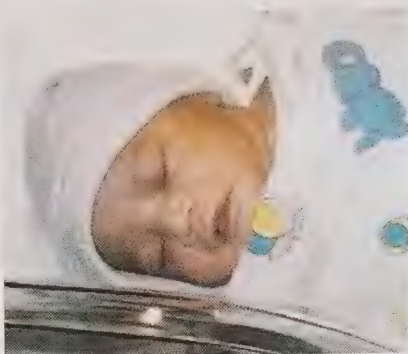
Employees of the 4th Quarter

Civilian of the Quarter, PSR **Toni Rodgers**; Supervisor of the Quarter, Sgt. **Scott Engendai**; Detective of the Quarter, Det. **Robert Lait**; Officer of the Quarter, Officer **Richard Campos**; and his partner Officer **David Dilkes**. Congratulations to all who were selected. The awards were well deserved.

New Arrivals

Congratulations to Senior Lead Officer

Emada Castillo and her husband, **Jesus** (Central Division), on the birth of their second child, **Amaya Elizabeth Castillo**, who was born on Oct. 29, 2002, weighing 8 lbs. and measuring 19.5 inches. Congratulations also to P-3 **John Gutierrez** and his wife, **Nora**, on the birth of their second child, **Joshua Gutierrez**, who was born on Dec. 19,



Baby Castillo

2002, weighing 9 lbs., 10 oz. and measuring 21 inches. And finally congratulations to P-1 **Gerardo Hernandez** and his wife on



Baby Gutierrez

the birth of their son, **Alexander Hernandez**, who was born on Dec. 9, 2002, weighing lbs., 3 oz. and measuring 18 inches. May you all enjoy those long, sleepless nights!

Ins/Outs of Southwest

So long to the following officers: Sgt. **Quan** who promoted to Sgt. II at WLA, Sgt. **Engendai** left for the Harbor, Sgt. **Barboza** went to Rampart, Sgt. **Krempa** went to WIL, Det. **Moreno** practically ran to ND, P-3 **Alutto** is also off to ND, P-2 **Doull** went to HWD, Sgt. **Verschuere** went to 77th, Sgt. **Escalante** went to WLA, P-3 **Mezquita**

left for NE, and P-2s **Hoffmeyer** and **Cervantes** both went to NEWT. Good luck to you all!

We welcome the following officers to Southwest: Sgt. **I Humphries** from NEWT, Det. **Carreon** from NE, Det. **Moody** from NEWT, Sgt. **Marzinko** from NEWT, Sgt. **Perez** from NE, P-3 **Acosta** from HWD, P-3 **Estrella** from HWD, Sgt. **Bygum** from HOBK, Sgt. **Vincent** from JUV, P-2 **Schubert** from FTHL, P-2 **Rivera** from HARB, P-2 **Martinez** from NE, P-2 **Ibanez** from NE, P-2 **Murray** from RAMP, P-2 **Fort** (welcome back), P-2 **Thayer** from VNY, P-2 **Market** from WLA, and finally P-1s **Amundson**, **Baran**, **Glick**, **Paz**, **Ruvalcaba**, **Gowen**, **Lopez**, **McDonagh**, **Sanchez**, **Sirorski**, and **Yin**. (Whew!! It's nice to see so many P-1s in the front row again!)

Congratulations to the following officers from Southwest who were recently promoted: Officer **Beer** who made P-3 in Vice, Officer **Ward** who made sergeant at WIL, Det. **Gordon** and Det. **Notle** from Homicide who both were promoted to Det. IIs. Good job, guys! ♦



by Maria C. Marquez
77th Street Division

The "Buc" Stops Here

Buccaneers, Raiders, and 77th Street. It was a long weekend for many of us! Who would have known that the underdogs (Tampa Bay) would have been able to show a Code 4 on the field in San Diego so dominantly.

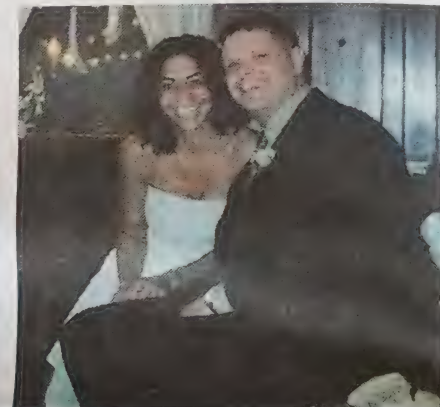
Congratulations to all of you Buc fans who had the opportunity to wear your Buccaneer logo at the station. You represented and supported a champion team. Hey, we have something in common with the Bucs—we have the same team logo. Go figure! I wonder how many



Did they just request a spanish speaker? Funny guys... bunch of eses!

people were offended by the pirate emblem during the Super Bowl?

77th held its own Super Bowl of sorts on January 19th. Watch 2 and Watch 3 hit the field for some serious flag football. Watch 3 performed like Buccaneers and Watch 2 looked something like a team called the Raiders. People talking smack and taking cheap shots only led to their defeat, 21 to 14! Congratulations, Watch 3. Next game...supervisors vs. patrol?



January 4, 2003, the Buckeyes win the championship and our very own "buckeye" takes a bride at the Little Chapel of the West, Las Vegas. Congratulations Ara and Alicia (James) Hollenback!

Hey Partner, Where Ya From?

Lately, we have had some guests in the house partnering up with us and working the field. Welcome aboard! This new plan could turn out to be a really good thing, because we are now afforded the opportunity to share information with different entities within our Department, not to mention the fact that the additional bodies enhance our patrol efforts. It is a good thing not to forget where it all begins and where it all ends. See ya in the field, partner!

Heroes With a Mission

As I sat down today to write this article, the news on every channel was reporting that the Shuttle Columbia never made it home. With a heavy heart I thought about those seven men and women who took on the challenge to make a difference, to disregard the danger, to put their families second because duty called and for just a moment I thought about you.

God bless America!



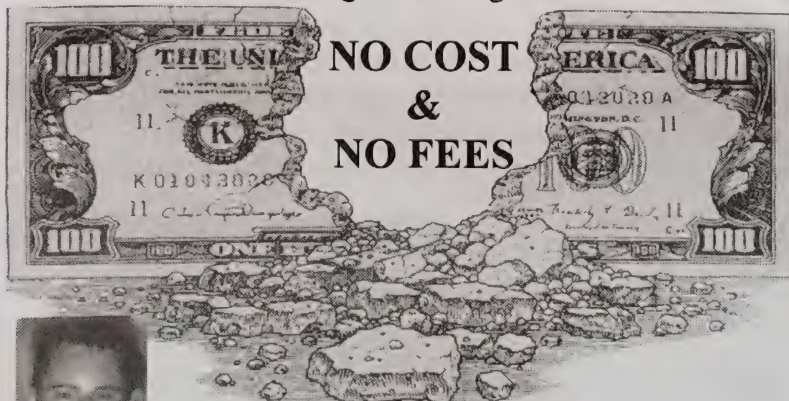
Sergeant Danielle Wells just being a good sport. P.S., I am sending this to your Mother!

Everything is Black and White

We are taking back the community just like Bratton promised, and we have many resources fighting this battle with us. Gang members are complaining as to why we have cops everywhere you look. We simply tell them that their behavior is the reason for the season of blue. Wonder how long it will take for them to get the full picture.

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by Andrew Garcia
Hollywood Division

Ok, let's start with the kudos for the very deserving staff of Hollywood area. Officer **Claude Graham** received his award for Officer of the Year. I had the pleasure of supervising Claude for a few months. He is not only a hard working officer, but also he is always willing to help his peers with a smile on his face. I expect great things in his future from Officer Graham.

The Supervisor of the Year is **Sergeant Steve Richards**. Steve has been in Hollywood for a long time. In fact, Steve was my supervisor when I was a P-2 in Vice/PED. When I returned

a supervisor, Pricilla has been immensely helpful to me. Pricilla puts in long hours and keeps the area office working smoothly. Thank you Pricilla for all your hardwork!

Detective of the year is **Detective II Steve Bucher**. Steve has been working Hollywood since 1988 and has been assigned to the burglary unit for five years. His peers and supervisors respect him. Steve was assigned 1134 cases and processed 97 arrestees in 2002! Even with this huge caseload, he was still able to maintain a high clearance rate. Steve authored and served 18 search warrants and recovered over \$500,000.00 worth of property, wow! Thank you Detective Bucher for all your hard work!

Detective of the Fourth Quarter is **Detective I Yehuda Packer**. Yehuda is a 16-year veteran and the last six has been as a detective. He came to Hollywood in May, 2002 and began his tireless work ethic right away. Yehuda investigated 77 cases, wrote 32 follow-up reports, 45 case notes and processed 12 arrestees. In the last quarter of the year, he handled



This is the photo of the Officer, Supervisor and Civilian of the year. Captain Findley and Captain Downing also.

Hollywood, I got the pleasure of working with Steve in SEU. I learned a lot about being a leader and the inner workings of West Bureau, Ha Ha (inside joke). Seriously, Steve Richards has lots of experience to draw from. I hope that Sergeant Richards sticks around Hollywood and passes on his valuable experience to the younger generation.

The Civilian Employee of the Year was given to **Pricilla Scimonitti**. In the short time I have been in Hollywood as

236 cases with a 32% clearance rate and processed 39 arrestees with a 90% filing rate! Thank you Detective Packer for your continued hard work!

Give Those Civilians A Badge!

Well, a funny thing happened to **Captain Michael Downing** on the way back from an awards luncheon. It seems that the captain was driving Pricilla Scimonitti and **Angela Perez** back to the



This is a photo of Detective Bucher. Detective of the Year.



Detective Packer. Detective of the 4th quarter/2002.

station. As they were passing Hollywood Blvd and Highland Ave, Angela observed three gang members involved in a 415 fight. Angela and Pricilla advised

Captain Downing that something needed to be done immediately!

Captain Downing stopped his vehicle as Pricilla put out a back-up call and Angela made sure that Captain Downing's back was covered. The suspects were all taken into custody. I guess when Chief Bratton said he wanted everyone to be proactive, he wasn't kidding! Good job to our civilian crime-fighting machine!!!

Baker to Vegas

There will be additional training runs in February, and early March. The Hollywood Team run-offs will be in late March at Griffith Park. The Baker to Vegas Challenge Cup Relay has been set for Saturday, April 12th, 2003. The Host hotel is now the Las Vegas Hilton and the course is ending at the Silverstand Hotel. The goal for 2003 is a great performance during the race and a repeat for Team Hollywood in the fun category. Runners and support personnel interested in participating with Team Hollywood, sign up on the bulletin board in the Hollywood Station hallway and discuss with Sgt. **Hees** what leg or support position you would like.

If any additional information is needed, please contact **Sergeant Glen Hees**, Hollywood Area, Day Watch, Watch Commander's Officer at (213) 485-4302 or at home (661) 255-7847 or **Sgt Alan Hamilton** or **Sgt Yolanda Caterino**.

Take care and be careful! ❖

More Divisional Reporter on next page



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DIVISIONAL REPORTER



by DII Lynn Hunter
Pacific Division

Thanks again to **April Carter** for her help with this month's information. She knows what to do to keep herself off the roastee hit list. And thanks to her and **Mark Pompano** for the following:

Open Casting Call - Pacific Area's production of "The Bachelor" is currently seeking 25 female officers interested in finding the man of their dreams right here at LAPD! Our first eligible bachelor is none other than Sgt. **Francisco "Sy" Feliciano** of Day Watch



Patrol fame. This handsome, debonair and financially secure supervisor is the real deal! "Slick Sly," as he is known to all his Pacific Area fans, is a self-proclaimed "non-player" in desperate search of a soul mate. Sy's hobbies include talking about himself, talking to others about himself, staring in the mirror, and watching an occasional New

York Yankee game on satellite TV. Due to the anticipated overwhelming response expected, interested contestants are urged to contact Pacific Area's Complaint Unit at (310) 202-4568 as soon as possible.

Officer **Ben Herrera** is the proud papa of Gracie Mae Herrera, 6 lbs., 2 oz., born on Jan. 14, 2003, at 0008 hours. Madison Alysa Ehrenburg, 8 lbs., 1 oz., was born to Officer **Darren Ehrenburg** on Jan. 21, 2003. (Is there something in the water at Pacific?) No photos are available yet, because both are off bonding with their young 'uns.

PIIs **Alan Bone** and **Robert Wade** met with PIII+I **Greg Smedley** recently after a PIR for BFMV, suspect just left. Due to their combined knowledge of the crime in the area and good communication with the citizens, they were able to arrest the suspect with the victim's property in his possession. Job well done!

I'll tell ya, robbers had better stay out of Pacific from now on. Officers **Misty Goodnight** and **Robert Wade** (again) stopped a vehicle for a traffic violation. During their attempt to identify the driver, they smelled a rat and investigated further. They discovered that they had in their custody four robbery suspects and property (including the car with cold plates) stolen in an armed 211 carjacking. All four suspects were arrested.



Venice Beach Detail.

Great work.

This month's roastee: With a name like **Peter Waack**, you just have to have a sense of humor. Pete's a Det. III over Pacific Burglary. He's been on for so long when he was a boot "Code 3" was "Giddeeyup." After going to so many of the old Chief's FASTRAC meetings, when Pete saw a sofa on the sidewalk the other day, he said, "Giddeeyup, but proceed with cushion." Pete has served his entire career in Venice/Pacific Division. His car drives him here automatically. He's a fixture here and I wouldn't be surprised if the building falls down when he completely retires. Pete went into DROP recently and plans on staying there for about a year. He's obtained a Bachelor's Degree in Gerontology from Cal State Dominguez. He plans on working in that field when he leaves LAPD. Yeah, I know, appropriate for the old guy. (I can say that because he's four months older than I am.) Pete has three daughters—Elizabeth, Amy and Andrea. Every year at Pacific's Christmas party you'll see Pete and his sweet, adorable wife, Doreen, dancing the night away, sometimes even with each other.

Take a look at the 1973 photo of the first real Venice Beach detail. Who are those guys? Can you identify the only two still on the job? The old Venice Station also had the first beach bicycle detail in the nation working in shorts. They had no official uniforms. The officers went to the "Surprise Store" to buy blue shorts and used the old white LAPD t-shirts with the navy blue trim.



They bought blue baseball caps and sewed the city seal on the front. There was no equipment, no bikes, no training. The vendors on Ocean Front Walk loaned bicycles to the officers. The squad used the lifeguard stations in Venice and in Playa del Rey as their headquarters. All this because of the city's new ordinance (LAMC 6351X) against nude beaches. It was a hit and miss affair. (!) Sometimes it was okay to be topless or nude, sometimes it wasn't. These poor officers had to go up to the young ladies and tell them to put their tops on. Pete Waack and **Ron Janney** made the first nude arrest. David Suskind wanted them to go to New York and be interviewed by the media, but L.A. wanted to keep it quiet. So the officers had to stay here and keep working hard against nudism. (The only two of the officers still on the job are **Stan Schott**, far left, and Pete Waack, just behind him.)

Hi's and Bye's: Sgt. **Stephen Meagher** left Pacific (again) to go to Hollenbeck; PIIs **Jeff Nelson** went to Harbor, **Darrell Ordone** to CED, and **Ed Williams** to Wilshire; PII **Frank Seviante** went to 77th. **DI Carolyn Jones** graduated to DII at AD and **OT Kim Porter** is all the way up from PII at Central Bureau SEU (another brand new detective, still wet behind the ears!). Best wishes to all.



by Rob Golden
Newton Division

"Swiper, No Swiping"

Ladies and gentlemen of Newton Area, we have a broken arrow. Officer "**Mark**" (last name withheld to protect the victim) arrived for work one day and discovered that someone had relieved him of his work boots. We don't know what kind of sick person would take Mark's Danners, but it is clear that he's not in possession of all of his faculties. Please be on the lookout for Mark's kicks. They are described as being black leather Danners, size 7 1/2, the soles of which are caked with 9 years worth of Newton elk droppings. If found, please do not attempt to polish or otherwise shine these boots, as they've never received such treatment, and may lose their structural integrity.

We're going to get you.

This is an open letter to the kidnapper

Page 32 / The Thin Blue Line / March 2003

who stole Officer Mark's boots. We will not negotiate with you. We will not pay any ransom. We demand the safe return of Mark's boots without further delay. You are in clear and present danger. If you do not comply with our demands, we will take them back by force. You don't want to unleash this beast that is our rage. We will not stand for anyone taking anymore of Mark's clothes. The poor guy is traumatized now. He used to leave his shirt and shorts nicely folded on the bench near his locker. Those innocent times are a thing of the past. Mark will never be the same again. We will sniff out Mark's boots, and get you. That's not a threat, it's a promise.

Seriously, if you took them, you suck.

Juvenile Officer Lobato

Officer **Lobato** is now working the Newton J-car. If you see any minors doing anything suspicious, please get a hold of the j-car. Officer Lobato and company will be glad to take whatever juvenile clusters you have.

CLEAR Officers nab a rapist

On Jan 24th at approximately 2315 hours, **CLEAR Officers Nunn** and **Terazas** were in the area of 41st Street and Hooper Av. When they observed a suspicious male. They stopped to speak with the suspect. During their investigation, they realized that he was visibly nervous, and appeared to not be telling the entire truth. Nunn and Terazas noticed that the suspect closely resembled the description of a rapist who attacked a woman two days earlier. The bad guy's nerves finally got the best of

him, and he fled on foot. Officers Nunn and Terazas skillfully setup a quick perimeter, and trapped him inside. The rapist was spotted by the air unit, and subsequently taken into custody when he was found hiding in the rear yard of a house.

There's no doubt that had these Officers not been on top of their game, this guy might never have been caught, and probably would've gone on to attack more people. Great Job Guys!

The Not So Fast And Furious

Members of the Newton Area Explorers weren't fast enough one January night in the City of Vernon. Approximately two carloads of Newton Explorers' finest were participating in street drag races when local law enforcement officers swooped in. One carload of explorers used some of the tactics they no doubt learned in Newton Area to escape and evade the officers. They were subsequently caught however when the young men in the other car "dimmed them out" (it's spelled correctly).

These not so fast explorers made a lot of people furious by embarrassing Newton Area and the department. Needless to say, they were relieved of their baby blue uniforms, and shown the door.

If you know of any responsible, levelheaded youths who you believe would make good replacements and don't have fast cars, contact the CRO Office or Sgt. **Curtis**.

Baker To Vegas

It's not too late to get on board with

the Newton Area Running Team. If you are interested in providing support during the run, being an alternate, giving a donation, or otherwise helping out where you can, contact **Detective McKnight** or **Sgt. Wehage A.S.A.P.**

The team captains are working around the clock to ensure that this year, everyone involved has a great time, and can be proud to claim Newton as their own.

Who's Going Where

Officer **Thomas** is going back to 77th Division as a Sergeant, good luck B.T. **Officer Kessop** is on her way back home to Southeast, I still have your pen. **Officer Ibanez** is leaving us for Southwest Area, **Officer Childs** is going to beautiful Van Nuys, and **MA2 Jaramillo** is going to "IG", wherever that is.

Coming in we have **Sgt. Yueng** who was a Detective at DSD, **Sgt. Anderson** who most recently was a Sergeant in Hollywood Division, and **PSR Franklin** from Communications Division.

Several P-II's made the transfer to Newton. They include **Officer Morales** from Devonshire, **Cervantes** and **Hofmeyer** from Southwest, **Briones** from Training Division, **Ruiz** from Transit Rail, and **Grundland** from West Valley.

We have four new Probies: **Moore**, **Taylor**, **Villalobos**, and **White**. Remember think straight, move quickly and sound off.

On behalf of all of us in Newton, welcome to those new to us, and best wishes to those of you who are moving on.

All R-Round Town

by Cathy Hardy
Metropolitan Division

Greetings! Happy spring! May the luck of the Irish be with you. And now for the Metro quarterly report... Meanwhile, back at the ranch.

The Best News of All

Two Metro miracles continue their road to recovery. **Bruce Hunt** was released from the hospital a few months ago and is continuing his progress in therapy. Also making remarkable progress is **Mike Cardenas**. Mike should be back in the saddle again real soon. Sincere wishes to you both on continued success in your recuperation efforts.

Some Real Good News

The former OIC of Charlie platoon has catapulted to a new height. The very first Homeland Security Director of the Los Angeles Police Department is none other than **Mike Hillmann**. Deputy Chief Hillmann oversees the newly created Special Operations Bureau (OHB, sort of, revised) which hovers at top of our food chain. Congratulations, Sir.

Up, Out and Downstairs

Making the three chevron upwardly mobile transition all the way downstairs to Central were **Chuck Springer** and the Yankee, **Alex Baez**. Spreading the talent around, **John Tippet** headed southbound through the houses to SOE, **Greg Gonzales** joined the mini-Metro cadre at pumpart, **Bobby L. Kain** headed way west, as in new millennium trailers of West

Valley. Steering their POV's onto the detective routes were **Saul Diaz** to SOE and **Juan Sanchez**. Congratulations to all and best wishes to your future career trails.

Incoming

Congratulations to the new faces of Metro. New platoon element members, **Patrick Arrue** (B), **Enrique Becerra** (B), **Reggie Braggs** (A), **Lasalle Culpepper** (G), **Eldred Day** (G), **Frank Galindo** (C), **Steve Jenkins** (G), **Rafael Lara** (C), **Mike Messenger** (A), and **Norma Stang** (C). Welcome aboard.

Upgrades and Platoon Movement

Super sharp A is now the uniform of the day for **Tim Swift** joining the stars assigned to OCO. Returning from the OCO to A platoon is **Steve Arredondo**. Joining the SWAT ready crew are **Jimmy Gastelo**, **Kelly Sandell**, **Guy Dobine** and the former Highlander, **Dain Hurst**. Congrats to the new men of SWAT.

Gone to the Chapel

Congratulations to Mr. And Mrs. **Rheingold**. The former Robbery Homicide series 10D, **Toddster** and his beautiful, gracious bride **Jacqueline** walked down the aisle and said I do on December 14th. Congratulations and best wishes.

Maternity Ward

Congratulations to the following Metro families on their new additions. **Mike Piesik** (A) and wife **Velia** welcomed son number 2, **Daniel Edward** on Oct. 8, 2002. **Daniel** joins big brother **Michael** and sister **Rebecca**. **Kenneth Thatcher III** (B) and wife **Julie** welcomed son **Matthew Allan** on Oct. 10, weighing in at 6 lbs. 13 oz. Big sister **Madie** and Grandpa **Kenny Thatcher II** (D) are settling in with the new family addition. On Oct. 24, **Dave Hall** (50C) and wife **Kellie** (FTHL) welcomed baby daughter **Tiffany Nicole** weighing in at 7 lbs. 4 oz. **Tiffany** wasn't sure she was

safe return.

A Day at the Beach

Sgt. **Linda Thompson**, #23895 (left), and P-3 Officer **Munguia**, #30116, standing next to her at Dockweiler Beach where they had the divisional picnic.

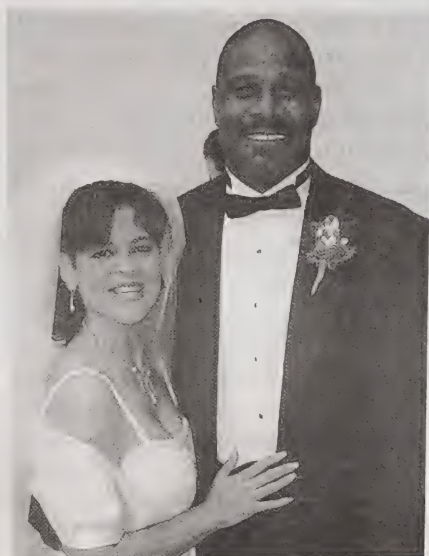
Greater Los Angeles Auto Show

One of the many things recruitment officers have to do is attend events that have viable candidates. It appears that from the smiles on these officers' faces,

they have located an eyeful of viable candidates. P-2 Officer **Gary Crump**, #27578 (third from the left Laker Girl) and P-3 Officer **Steven Briggs**, #31547 (third from the right Laker Girl) posing by the Recruitment Van. ❖



Aaron Smith



Todd and Jacqueline Rheingold

ready to greet the outside world but she eventually joined the family lineup after 17 hours. Momma and baby are doing fine. **Ralph Smith** (D) and wife **Cheryl** welcomed their first born on November 3, 2002. **Aaron Lamar Smith** weighed in at 7 lbs. 9 oz. and 21 inches long.

Injured Reserve List

Get well wishes out to **Doug Roller** (K9-30), **Roger Blackwell** (30D), **Steve Arrellano**, **Terry Ruppel**, **Larry Bavaro**, **Kevin Grogan**, **Mike Glenn**, **Steve Jenkins**, **Karen Beidle**, **Jeff Tepich**, **Keith Bacon**, **Marcos Rubio**, **Steve Weaver**, **Eddie Perez**, **Jerry Santos**, and **Bill Pack**.

Welcome Back

Returned to duty, 20D **Doug Reid**, **Rich Ludwig**, **Jesse Garcia**, **Steve Scallon**, and **Don**, aka **Frenchy**, **Poirier**.

Deepest Sympathy

Sincere condolences to the family of former D teamer, Policeman III **Bobby Avina**. Bobby, a SWAT Dog with an unforgettable smile, succumbed to his fierce battle with cancer in December. Upon his retirement in 1995, he was just shy of 20 years in SWAT. He left a mark.

Operation Enduring Freedom

At press time, Secretary of State **Colin Powell** delivered a compelling case against our well-known foreign enemies to the world. By the time this periodical is delivered to your mailbox, ours will be a different world. Adding to our Blue Star Banner list are recently activated **Curtis Lawson**, **Robert** (Leonard) **Christian**, **Joe Witty** and the Frenchman, **Don Poirier**. We'll see you guys when you get back.

Time Marches On

On March 18, pour yourself a **Prairie Fire** for an old Marine up in heaven who now has another old SWAT dog to help him watch over the new pups. Salute.

Until next time, R-10girl. ❖

More Divisional Reporter on next page

The World Class Police Department LAPD RECRUITMENT RHETORIC

Officer Mark L. Horton
Recruitment Section

Recruitment - Redeployment

There were two officers that have been recently deployed for military duty, both of whom are Marine Reserves. P-3 Officer **Tim Kevany**, #33155



and P-2 Officer **Angel Vega**, #31334. Officer **Vega** is second from the right sitting next to his wife, **Karen**, on the right. We at Recruitment & Employment Division pray for their swift and



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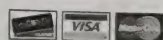
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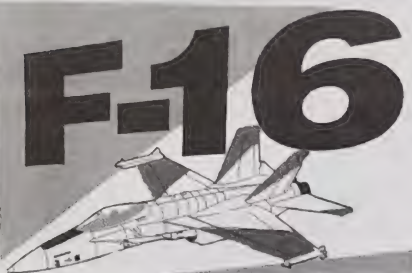
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DIVISIONAL REPORTER



by Julian Almaraz
Foothill Division

Commendable Caper

Foothill Patrol Involved Officers: P-3 P. Barba, #34920; P-2 C. Dinse, #32725; SEU: P-2 Morales, #32882; P-2 Alferez, #31625.

On November 8, 2002, Officer Barba and Dinse received a radio call to meet San Fernando PD at 10700 Laurel Canyon for a GTA investigation. The suspect was described as a male black, 5'7", 210 lbs., wearing all black clothing and armed with a knife, outstanding in the immediate area. Officers advised Foothill area officers to check the area.

Approximately 15 minutes later, Foothill area SEU officers Morales and Alferez were in the area of Pierce Street and Laurel Canyon. The officers recalled the earlier broadcast and observed a possible suspect matching the description standing on the N/E/C. The officers stopped and detained the suspect for GTA investigation. The victim of the GTA was transported to the suspect's location and was positively identified.

As it turned out, the suspect entered the lone female's vehicle at Nordhoff and Woodman at the Mobil gas station.

The suspect threatened to kill the victim with a knife. The suspect and victim drove around for several hours, during which time the suspect sexually assaulted the victim. A short time later, San Fernando officers attempted to stop the vehicle and the suspect fled on foot.

Officers Barba and Dinse are commended for their quick response and broadcasting of the suspect to other units in the area. Officers Morales and Alferez are commended for their observation skills and knowledge of the crimes in the area. Their actions resulted in the arrest of a violent sex offender. Completed by Sgt. Reid, #23653.

Commendable Caper

Foothill Area FES Officers to be commended: P-3 Robert Plourde, #25063; P-2 Rolando Rodriguez, #30733; P-2 Gerald Mimms, #31584.

On December 31, 2002, at approximately 2115 hours, Officers Plourde, Rodriguez and Mimms, assigned to Foothill area FES, were conducting a narcotic investigation in the Sun Valley area at the Pink Motel. The officers observed a male Hispanic whom he had arrested numerous times for possession of a controlled substance. He also was aware that the suspect failed to appear for court on several cases and now had a felony warrant for his arrest. As the officers exited their vehicle, the suspect noticed them and fled into one of the rooms at the motel. The officers followed the suspect and door knocked the location. After several minutes, the suspect opened the door, only after breaking out a section of the rear bathroom louver window and pushing out the screen. When the door was open, offi-

cers recognized a second suspect from a prior narcotic arrest who also had a felony warrant for his arrest.

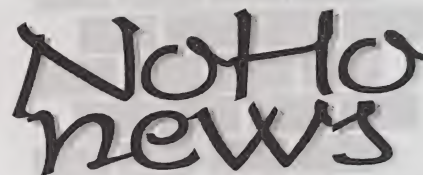
Officers placed both suspects under arrest for the felony warrants. Officers also recovered a substance possibly resembling cocaine from on top of the dresser drawer. Officers also recovered a loaded .45 caliber pistol from the ground below the broken bathroom window. Both suspects were gang members, one arrested for 12031 A2C PC gang member with firearm and 11351.1 PC H&S. The other suspect was arrested for his two felony narcotic warrants.

The officers are commended for their proactive police work resulting in removing a gun off the streets and placing two known gang members in jail and preservation of human life.

Foothill Detectives

Foothill area is losing an outstanding

person and detective with over 30 years of service. D-2 William Caughey, #17500, Robbery. This detective was one of the first Metro officers and helped start the first CRASH units in the south end. He worked all types of specialized units in the city and all areas of detective units. Det. Caughey was on the Bryant family task force, who convicted all involved in all the homicides in the Foothill area, which controlled all the narcotic sales in the San Fernando Valley back in the '80s. He also worked closely with all the patrol units and other detectives in his unit. I, myself, am honored to know him and gain his expertise and knowledge. He cares about his friends, officers and the community he served. Have a great retirement and long life. Don't forget us. Just drop us a line once in a while. God bless.



by Angie Hougen
North Hollywood

Congratulations to our Detectives of the Quarter

Due to the recent increase in gang crime in North Hollywood, Detective Dave Friedrich #30946 and Detective Alan Stirwalt #30375, were added to the Gang Unit, in hopes of getting the upper hand in this upsurge of violent crime in our community. Their effectiveness and hard work were instantly realized and a 25% increase in clearing gang crimes has been seen for the past three consecutive months. Friedrich and Stirwalt both display a personal commitment to solve each and every one of their cases. They make their own arrests and have written several successful arrest and search warrants. They are one of the most productive teams in North Hollywood, and well deserving of the Detective of the Quarter Award.

Technical Reserve Peter Feldman Honored at the Reserve of the Year Banquet

Peter Feldman #R2887, will be honored at the March 15th citywide Reserve of the Year Banquet. Peter became a technical reserve officer in 1999.

During that time he has worked the front desk, crime scene investigations, stolen vehicle investigations, and a variety of other functions throughout the city. Throughout the DNC, he worked extended hours in direct support of the Staples Center Task Force. Currently, he carries a caseload for Detectives. He is being honored for his duty, professionalism, and excellent job knowledge. At North Hollywood, Peter's positive attitude, outstanding sense of humor, and approachable personality, make him a pleasure to work with. In addition to his duties with the Department, he is also a successful software engineer, and marathon runner. Thank you Peter, for all your enthusiasm, and commitment.

Mejia and Bangasser start 2003 as Officers of the Month

Officer Miguel Mejia #34655, was North Hollywood's Officer of the Month for January, and Officer Thomas

NORTH HOLLYWOOD DIVISION TECHNICAL RESERVE OF THE YEAR



PETER FELDMAN

For outstanding service to the community and the Los Angeles Police Department

Bangasser #34316, our Officer of the Month for February. Both have been at North Hollywood for the last few years, and their hard work and dedication make a difference for their fellow officers, as well as the North Hollywood Community. Congratulations, and thank you for all your hard work.

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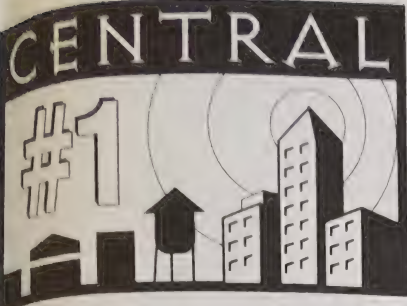
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by Marie Kardiban
Central Division

Here's an amusing story that was accidentally omitted from the January issue. I apologize to Detective **Russ Long** for the oversight.

Unlucky Wednesday the 13th

On 11-13-02 Central Area had their annual inspection and the first by Chief **Bratton**. Among those who spent considerable time preparing for the inspection was famed night watch detective **Larry Barr**. Of course, Larry did not spend much time on his shoes because he had some years earlier purchased patent leather (corfam) shoes that never need polishing.

Just before the Chief arrived, Larry looked over to a detective standing next to him and commented how bad his shoes look, while boasting how great patent leather jobbers were, simply sparkling.

Things started to turn bad for Larry when the formation was told to make an about face. While doing so there was a loud pop and Larry's sparkling left shoe blew out leaving a gaping wound that exposed his foot. The Chief was kind enough not to mention the obvious but not so with the rest of the squad. Not surprisingly Larry respectfully declined to have one of the numerous photographers take a close up, so no pictures are available for this article.

"CNOA" Award

Congratulations to Senior Lead Officer, **Joe Lopez**. Joe received an appreciation award from the California Narcotic Officer Association in recognition of his efforts and professional contributions to narcotic law enforcement.



Joe Lopez, PIII + I.

Joe has made over 2000 arrests for 11550 H&S in the downtown area in past 9 years with a 98% filing rate. With his expertise in narcotics, arrests have increased 58%. Joe is a DRE instructor and has in the past 8 months certified 5 DRE's. He also teaches "IDAP" Impaired Driver Apprehension Program. Congratulations on a job well done. Keep up the good work.

Whatever Happened to...?

by Larry Pratt

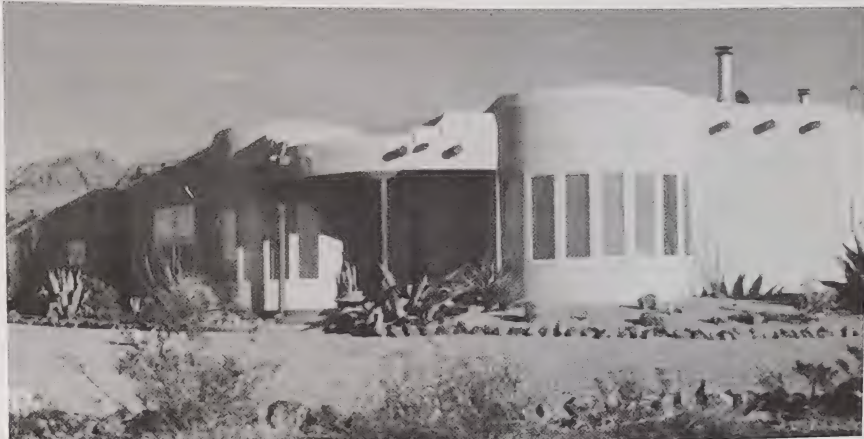
February 2003

One of my most memorable incidents when I worked Central Division was the time **Jim Armstrong** and I were assigned to the B-Wagon. The movie, "The Mechanic" was being filmed on skid row. The movie starred **Charles Bronson** who played an assassin. We

drove past the set, and there was **Charles** standing on the sidewalk. We pulled over and started talking to him.

Charles was very interested in the B-Wagon. We asked him if he would like a ride. To our surprise he said he would. Well, not only did we give him a ride; he actually rode with us picking up 390's for an hour.

Joe Zamora, class of June 1969, was a long time footbeat Officer, Det. and wagon master. Joe retired in 1994 as a Det II from Central Area. He and his wife **Tina**, moved to Las Cruces New Mexico where, for the past two years he



Zamora's casa in Los Cruces.



Joe & Tina Zamora.

has worked at the N.A.S.A. Space Center. Joe says he enjoys the job, because he has always been interested in space, plus he gets to see behind the

scenes, where he has had the opportunity to meet most of the Astronauts.

Joe met **Tina** when he worked in Central where he was a Det and she a secretary, also in Central Area. **Tina** later left the Department and went to nursing school where she became an RN. Joe and **Tina** were married in 1980. (Hope that's the right year Joe!) **Tina** currently is back in school working towards her Master's Degree, wanting some day to return to nursing school to teach.

Joe and **Tina** are very happy in Las Cruces where they go hiking, and Joe

hangs out at the Moose Lodge. **Tina** said that Joe went hunting for some deer in the Riudoso Mountains for three days and found nothing. When he came home, there were five deer grazing in their back yard. Joe didn't shoot any of the deer, of course, mainly **Tina** wouldn't let him. Joe says **Tina** is always taking apples and grains and other foods to the back yard and feeding the deer, quail and anything else that should be passing through.

Joe wants everyone to know that he and **Tina** are really enjoying retirement and love the Las Cruces area, but they do miss the LAPD people of Central area. They also want you to know that anytime you are passing by their way, stop in and have a cold beer and a hot burrito. ♦

Winning With West Traffic

by Sgt. Stephanie Krajchir
West Traffic Division

Ins and Outs

Welcome back P3+1 **Steve Chen** to CIFU from VTD and congratulations to **BCMC's Shands McCoy** on his promotion to Det. **Ron Alberca** as a new sergeant at West Valley. Good luck to **Danny Suarez** on his transfer to 77th Division.

Retirements

CTSU P2+2 **Mike Bohlen** retired as of last November with 29-and-a-half years on the job, but his big bash is coming up at the Academy on March 21, 2003, 6:00 p.m. happy hour and 7:00 p.m. dinner. Contact CTSU at (213) 473-0215 for more info (\$25).

Say it isn't so!! Another WTD icon has decided to pull the pin as well. P2+2 **Mark Hammond** has decided he's had enough after 30 years of service. He is known as the DUI bicycle king and has worked the deuce task force for many years. He will be sorely missed!

Congratulations

Kudos to Lt. **Joe Peyton** on his son **Garren's** graduation from the LAPD

academy on February 7th. **Garrett** will be assigned to Foothill Division. Also P3 **Frank Albarran** is the proud father of a healthy baby girl, **Jasmine**, and by the time of publication, **Danny Suarez** should be a father again with his third daughter.

Condolences

To P2+2 **Bob Williamson** whose father recently passed away.

Commendable Copper Capers

Well two Watch 4 officers took the prize this month for attention to duty. P2 **Bill Munoz** and P2 **Ricky Hernandez** had two incidents which resulted in two great felony arrests. On the first, they were flagged down by a citizen regarding a violent robbery. The citizen was the victim and recognized the suspect walking down the street. The 415 suspect was not as cooperative as they would have liked. However, through their outstanding verbalization skills, the suspect was eventually taken into custody. The suspect was a very large statured 15-year-old who had a few choice words for the officers during the entire ordeal. Well done!

In the second incident the officers were simply minding their own business, completing the usual traffic call at Olympic and Mariposa (isn't that how these all start anyway?). Suddenly they heard several shots being fired just northeast of their location and several people running southbound on Mariposa pointing at a car. This car was now approaching the officers and **Munoz** and **Hernandez** immediately exited their

vehicle and took cover. Despite several commands to stop their vehicle, the suspects drove past them and sped away (surprising isn't it?). A pursuit ensued, ending when the suspects abandoned the vehicle and took off on foot. Wits advised the officers of the different directions the suspects took, and the passenger was taken into custody shortly afterwards. A perimeter was set up to locate the driver; however, he was never found. Another wit positively identified the suspect in custody as the shooter and the loaded gun was found on the roof of an adjacent apartment building, along with the suspect's t-shirt. The vehicle returned as a stolen car (another surprise) and minutes earlier Rampart Division had a report of an attempt mur-

der at that location involving the same two suspects. Unfortunately no victim was ever located, but the suspect in custody was booked for gang member with a gun (pattern?), as well as filings for carrying a loaded gun in a vehicle and negligent discharge of a firearm. Great job!!

Special recognition goes to all of our sworn personnel with 30 or more years on the job: D3 **Terry Pearson** (see Terry I put you first this time), D2 **Mike Dunn**, SCO P2+2 **Rick Wells**, Sgt. 1 **Bob Topete**, CTSU Sgt. 1+2 **Rick Harper**, P3+1 **Kenny Hobbs**, Photo Coordinator P3 **Denny Huddleston**, and Motors **Karl Barnhart**, **Pat Beighly**, **Dennis Nelson**, and **Mark Hammond**. ♦

More Divisional Reporter on next page

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DIVISIONAL REPORTER



by Sergeant Rudy Santos
Devonshire Division

Devonshire CRO Personnel Involved in Dangerous Situation

Everyone knows that patrol is the most dangerous detail that one can work on the LAPD. Other details can be just as bad, but officers usually have time to fully pre-plan, put on extra protective equipment, and have additional firepower, prior to a tactical situation. Working an administrative detail like community relations, I never thought I would be so close to a life threatening situation along with the other personnel from my detail. This just goes to show you that all officers are living dangerously in the LAPD.

It was a sunny day in the City of Los Angeles. The temperature was mild and there was actually not a hint of smog in this usually smoggy city. The time was 1100 hours. It was time for lunch. The CRO personnel huddled, as we always do, to decide where to go for lunch. After precious minutes were consumed flipping coins and playing rock, paper,

scissors, we finally decided to get Burger King and bring it back to the office. Dan "Have you lost your %&@# 'in mind" Slater, Emigdio "La Opinion" Neri, Ingrid "Little Spud" Langrehr, Sid "The Sniper" Gonzalez, Louis "Cabana Boy" Cabrera from the training unit, and myself "Fat Rudy", all piled into the Explorer van. There was one minor technicality. No one was seated in the driver's seat. Then, to our horror, the driver's door slowly opened and in climbed our worst nightmare.....**Bob Lequin**. Immediately, we scrambled for our seatbelts and off we went to Burger King. In what should have been a 5-minute trip, it turned out to be a 10-minute horror ride. Eastbound Devonshire Street just before Zelzah Avenue, Bob's cell phone rang. It also happened to be in his gun bag on the floorboard. This didn't matter to Bob. He let go of the steering wheel and began digging in his bag. We all screamed in unison as the van started drifting over the center lanes. If it weren't for Neri grabbing the steering wheel, grandma in her 1989 Oldsmobile would have been our new hood ornament. Bob sat up in his seat and sort of regained control of the van. We were now northbound on Zelzah Avenue approaching Chatsworth Street with Burger King in sight. Thinking Bob would continue northbound to Chatsworth Street, we suddenly found ourselves violently shifting forward in our seat and then leaning to the right as Bob almost locked up the tires and made a quick and sharp left turn into the shopping center just south of

Chatsworth Street.

We all watched Bob as he searched for Burger King in the wrong shopping center. Neri broke the news to him. We were in the wrong place. As Bob tried to work himself out of the parking lot, it seemed that every senior citizen in Chatsworth decided to pull out of a parking spot and in the path of our vehicle. Several sudden stops occurred before carsickness set in. Finally, we were out of the shopping center. After a couple more quick rights and lefts, we finally arrived at our destination. The van doors opened. Ingrid and Sid went to the bushes to throw up. Dan and Neri were dishing out insults. Louis had his Cuban cigar smashed up and bent, and I sat down on the rear bumper and started picking my nose. Who says there is no fun and excitement in the City of Angels.

Devonshire Night Watch Detectives

There comes a time when even I have to get serious. This part will be short because my serious bone is smaller than my funny bone. Everyone at Devonshire works hard to get the job done. Two people, who especially come to mind, every time one thinks of hard workers, are Det II **Stephanie Lazarus** and Det II **Maureen Geller**, the night watch detectives. Their work is extremely valuable and is the reason why patrol operations run smoother than before. Some of the duties that Stephanie and Maureen do are major crime scene response and investigations including homicide scenes, booking advice, juvenile citebacks, juvenile investigation advice, 5.10 interviews, teletypes, vehicle releases, front desk investigation advice, and the processing of arrest packages.



Detective Lazarus.



Detective Geller.

Devonshire Detectives have truly chosen the best to fill this important detail. As time goes by and the reorganization of the Department continues, Stephanie and Maureen will be in the forefront of a new system to provide almost round the clock detective expertise to their brother and sister officers on the streets.



by Ruben Rodriguez
Hollenbeck Division

Happy March, everyone. During these patriotic times, permit me to indulge you in a bit of trivia concerning the month of March. Did you know that the "Star Spangled Banner", as we know it today, became the official U.S. National Anthem on March 3rd, 1931? You may dazzle someone with your newly discovered bit of knowledge.

Explorer Achievements:

During January 16 through 19, 2003, the Hollenbeck Explorers participated in the Chandler (AZ) Police Explorer Tactical Competition. The Hollenbeck contingency of sixteen explorers participated in a number of tactical and physical agility events. This is the fifth consecutive year that the Hollenbeck Explorers have taken part in the Chandler competition. This year, our explorers received honors in several categories. Hollenbeck took first place in the combat shoot portion of the competition while also taking first place in the timed three-mile run. Hollenbeck Explorers placed second in the F.A.T.S. and walked away with a fourth place finish in the High Risk Warrant Service category.

On Wednesday, January 29, 2003, during the Los Angeles City Council's regularly scheduled meeting, Councilman



Hollenbeck explorers receiving certificates of appreciation from Councilman Nick Pacheco.

Nick Pacheco presented the Hollenbeck Explorers with certificates of appreciation for outstanding service to the community.

I just want to take this time to recognize the great job that the Hollenbeck Explorers, under the expert guidance of Officers **Alex Ortiz** and **Darcy Cornwell**, are doing. Their accomplishments, measured by all of the above recognition, have been outstanding and are definitely appreciated by the department as well as by the community. Keep up the great work and **THANKS**.

Kelly Key Award:

This year's recipients of the Kelly Key Award are Officers **Gus Trujillo** and **Rudy Chavez**. The annual award, presented for outstanding overall performance, went to two well-deserving



Gus Barrientos receiving the Kelly Key award at the Dodger Luncheon.

and hard-working individuals. Gus and Rudy were recognized during festivities on January 29th at the 22nd annual salute to the Los Angeles Dodgers luncheon, held at Dodger Stadium. Congratulations to both of you on your well-deserved award.

Retiree Update:

I recently had the opportunity to enjoy a few adult beverages with my for-

mer training officer and supervisor, retired Sergeant **Robbie Holroyd**. Robbie is doing well and is enjoying his new life as a "house husband." It was



Robbie Holroyd enjoying the Super Bowl game.

nice to see an old friend and I told him I would give him a shout-out on my column, so here it is.

Climbing the Ladder to Success:

Congratulations go out to **G. Barboza**, who is now a big-city detective, assigned to Southwest Division and to **K. Koskelin**, who is now a P-3 assigned to Harbor Division. Good luck to both of you on your respective new assignments and may you keep climbing the ladder.

Que Paso?

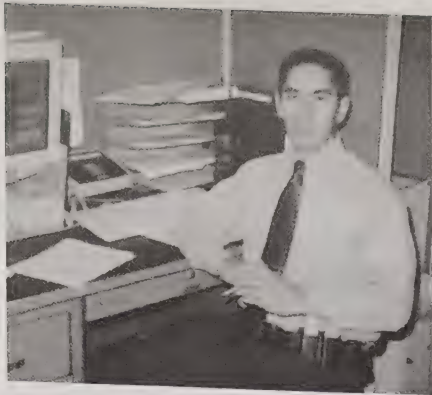
This month's salute goes out to my good buddy, **Jeff "little tomato" Mares**. What's up with that red face, dude? See you all next month. Until then, keep your chin up, walk the walk and stay safe!

West LA Journal

by Mary Dacey
West LA Division

I was recently approached by Det. **Hooshmand** who returned from a hiatus and asked why everyone else was mentioned in the *Blue Line* but him?! (Regarding New Year's resolutions.) I reminded him that he had been away for a while, but to go ahead and tell me what his resolution was. He said that he wanted to be "good"...okay, good...but at what! Detecting? Baking? Swimming? Pole-vaulting?!!! Just kidding, Hoosh. I know you'll be just as good at spying this year as you were last year, maybe even better.

On the promotion front, we have our own **Jim Merle** who has been promoted to P3. He will be in charge of the training unit as he has decided to give up on bicycling, especially at night. He said that from there he might like to become a sergeant and told me that, "It's all good!" Indeed it is. Good luck and congratulations. I am awaiting the arrival of the transfer list to see if anyone else has been promoted, as well as checking on any arrivals and/or departures. Meanwhile, whatever happened to el nino!? If it hasn't arrived by the time you receive this, then maybe it really isn't coming after all. On the other hand,

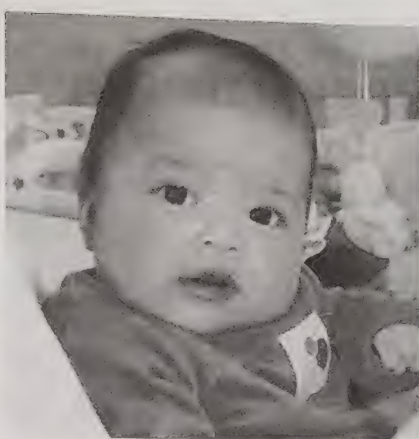


Newly promoted Detective Marty Mojarro, o.o said he "snuck" in under the wire - but might be back as a sergeant.

there's still time to have another "miracle March" so keep your umbrellas handy, just in case.

Extra! Extra! Read all about it. The transfer has just arrived so there are, indeed, a few people to mention. P2 **T. Schmitz** has also been promoted to P3 and will be remaining at West L.A. P3 **Marty Mojarro** and P2 **Maria Palmer** have both been promoted to detective and will be heading to Van Nuys and Wilshire, respectively. Additional movement in the force shows Sgt. **K. Benitez** leaving for Rampart, with Sgts. **C. Kent** and **R. Escalante** arriving from Harbor and Southwest. P3s **J. Britton** will be coming from Pacific and P3 **J. Veiga** from RMD. P2 **C. Markel** will be leaving for Southwest. Congratulations to one and all. Y'all come back now, ya hear?

West L.A. was also pleased to announce the recent promotion of **Eric Quan** to Sgt. 2 in the Vice Unit. He returned to us after a brief time away and was also in the Philippines for a while courtesy of the military. Eric and Grace (also an employee at WLA) are new par-



Lauren Nicole Quan. Parents - Sergeant II Eric & MA II Grace.

ents, and Grace promised to bring in a picture for the *Blue Line*. I'm sure their baby will grow up to eat bagels as bagels are the main staple of Eric's diet, with Grace partaking now and then as well. I was reminded of the unusual circumstances regarding the birth of their girl, Lauren Nicole Quan. Grace told me that Eric had been activated due to the 9/11 terrorist attacks where he spent four months in the southern Philippines. Eric could not be there for the birth of the child who was born, you guessed it, on 9/11. She weighed 7 lbs., 1 oz, was 19-1/2 inches long and was born at 3:03 p.m. (1503 in police and military lingo.) Somehow I don't think they will ever forget their baby's birthday!

Det. **Ed Purcell** of the Juvenile section recently commended two of his "J"-car officers for their outstanding participation in a Life Skills class at University (Uni) High School. Officers **Llamas** and **Horton** took place during this event on December 6, 2002, during which time the officers gave a 20-minute presentation to

a class of approximately 25 ninth graders. This was followed by a question-and-answer session which lasted for six hours (just kidding). Anyway, they were chosen for this assignment because of their outstanding relationship with the schools in the area and because they have demonstrated their ability to relate to the students on many occasions. It's not always easy to get the attention of teenagers, let alone keep them interested and attentive during class. Ms. Crowley, the teacher, presided over the event and contacted detective Purcell to express her thanks to



Would you buy a used car from that man?! It's Detective Price - this time after the "flood."

officers Carlos Llamas and Sean Horton, whom she said seemed to have "connected" with her students better than any other guest speakers she has had over the years! She felt that the officers were outstanding representatives of the LAPD and presented them with 15 letters from the students. Their dedication to duty enabled them to display Community Based Policing at its highest level. ❖

way out West

by Jason Jacobson
West Valley Division

Out with the old, in with the new

Greetings from West Valley Trailer Park! For those of you who haven't been by the old station, there's not much to see. Our station was part of the community for 42 years, until Oct 30, 2002. Everything but the radio tower is now a dirt field, and we will continue to operate out of temporary trailers until the new station is com-



pleted in 2 years or so. Current and former West Valley officers attended reunion/ auction on Jan 31, where parts of the old prison doors and other items were purchased. Thanks to **Officer Kevin Archer** for his memorializing photographs of the station.

Cheers to all the hard work put in by

patrol officers for your high number of good arrests, especially the high number of stolen vehicle arrests. I'll have some details of some of our capers in the next issue.

West Valley Station coins are avail from Officer Sharrar in the training office, ext 7982. The cost is \$10.00, and they look really good. A quick note from Officer **Sharrar**, our recycling coordinator; there are recycling bins for newspaper and magazines in front of the Detective trailer.

Baker to Vegas

April 13-14 marks the 2003 Challenge Cup Relay. If you'd like to participate as a runner or provide support, contact Officer **McGee**.

Coming and Going

West Valley extends it's welcome to Capt **J. Weinstein** #24233, Det **C. Speer** #22298, Det **S. McCoy** #25578, Sgt **R. Alberca** #26184, Sgt **S. Cornell**

Martinez #35811, P-2 **S. Stevens** #36001, P-1 **K. Lopez** #36385, and P-1 **J. Sidiropoulos** #36408

Leaving us are Det **T. Kirkpatrick** #32185 (NHWD), Sgt **G. Goble** #25480 (WIL), Sgt **L. Jones** #27404 (HWD), Sgt **S. Kennedy** #26227 (WIL), Sgt **M. Taylor** #25523 (FTHL), Sgt **C. Slater** #26164 (IAG), Sgt **D. Prosser** #30002 (NHWD), P-3 **P. McLaughlin** #32195 (Dev), P-3 **C. Rymza** #33634 (DEV), P-3 **L. Mararenko** #31705, P-2 **B. Alvarez** #33890 (NHWD), P-2 **G. Andrachick** #33829 (VTD), P-2 **K. Currie** #36008 (HWD), P-2 **R. Ferrer**

#35725 (VTD), P-2 **T. Grundland** #35559 (NEWT), and P-2 **B. Yasnyi** #36026 (77th). Good luck to you all!

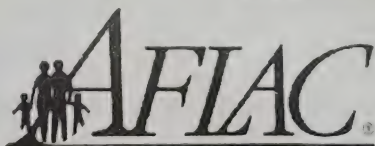
A quick note to all of you who experience some "commendable capers." I will be aware of a lot of the happenings in our division, but as we all know, a lot can happen during a four-day stretch of days off, and I may not ever hear about something that's happened during that time. Throw me a copy of your arrest report and I'll ensure it makes the paper.

Keep up the good work, and watch your six! ❖

More Divisional Reporter on next page

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DIVISIONAL REPORTER

VANNUYS Happenings

by Lydia C. Grzelkowska
Van Nuys Division

Recent Events

Congratulations to Officer of the Quarter, **Leticia Yanecko**, Sergeant of the Quarter, **Daniel Bunch**, Detective of the Quarter, **Greg Demerjian** and Civilian of the Quarter, **Nadia Faelnar**. Nadia, by the way, is getting married and is moving to Ireland in March. We



wish her the best.

Welcome back to Sergeant **Hundertmark**. He is back from medical leave and is now working in the Admin. Unit.

Detective **Juan Santa** is back from military leave but will be shipped back out in two or three weeks. First he will go to Abilene, Texas then to Fort Bragg,

North Carolina with the Army's medical team. Juan is assigned to 425 Civil Affairs Battalion. We wish him well.

Officer **Juan Topete** is now working the DART car after working with the explorers for five years. We miss you in the CRO office partner!

Detective **Ben Meda** is the proud owner of a Hummer 4 at Van Nuys Division. The shock of gas mileage and the DMV fees should set in real soon.

There is a "Health Challenge" going on in Van Nuys Detectives. Fourteen participants will compete to see who can lose the most body fat percentage within two months. This "challenge" started January 13th. Participants are entering the contest under secret code names. Hopefully the winner will reveal him/herself once the contest is over.

Get Wells

Officer **Timothy Ledingham** took a spill on his motorcycle and sustained injuries. He is home resting and recovering. Take care buddy.

We all wish Officer **Linda Gotham** a speedy recovery from her knee surgery. She is home resting. Hurry back, we need our overtime!

Detective **Erwin Velasco** had gall bladder surgery. He is at home resting. All the best for a speedy recovery.

Another Successful Elk Hunting Trip (Report from Jim Rigney)

Jim Rigney and Tom Bibbs put



together another successful elk hunting trip in the beautiful state of Colorado. This year they took a total of 11 hunters. They left for Colorado on November 29th, 2002 for the late Rifle Elk Hunt that started on December 1st. The weather was unusually warm for December with morning temperatures in the high teens and low 20's. The afternoon temperatures were in the low 50's with clear skies and no snow falling during the hunt. The state of Colorado averages about 20% to 24% success rate for elk. Jim and Tom's group again beat the state average with 100% success after only five days, and three hours on the sixth day of hunting. Congratulations and good luck in 2003.

Baby News

The photo is in of Officer **Ja** Cherrette with daughter Leanna,



years old, and new born son **Garr** born October 2, 2002. Congrats again

Correction

The Sepulveda, Sherman Oaks and Pacoima Woman's Club were the k souls who fed the officers for Thanksgiving feast in November. It w their 9th year feeding the troo Thanks again!

Van Nuys Comings-N-Going

Coming in: Sgt I C. Odonne #32115; Sgt I S. Olson, #34148; Sgt I Thompson, #27551; Det I M. Mojar #31917; P3 C. Meisner, #31749; P2 Armendariz, #30968; P2 D. Chilo #34915; P2 J. Robledo, #2449; P2 B. Schumacher, #33696; P1 Diosomito, #36427; P1 S. Tanner #36562; P1 Q. Walunga, #36466

Leaving: Sgt I H. Mathews, #2414 (DEV); Sgt I M. Patriquin, #2650 (RAMP); B. Thayer, #35983 (SW) *

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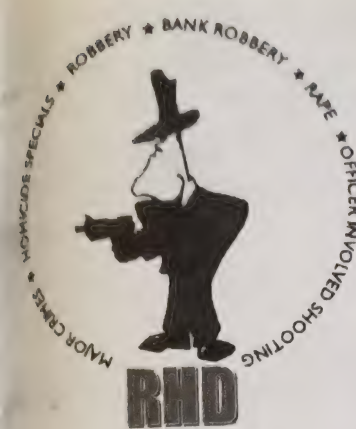
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by Det. Marcella Winn
Robbery-Homicide Division

Commendable Incident

Detective Aldofo Contreras, Robbery-Homicide Division, Rape Special Section submitted the following.

On Monday, November 18, 2002 a brutal rape occurred in the Rampart area of Los Angeles. The victim in this case was seven months pregnant who was home alone when the suspect entered her apartment armed with a knife. During the victim's terrifying ordeal, the suspect used an electrical wire to tie and bound the victim before he raped and sexually assaulted her. The suspect threatened to return and kill the victim and her mother if she reported the incident to the police. The victim and her mother were forced to leave their small apartment fearing the suspect would return and act on his threats.

Detectives from Robbery-Homicide Division, Rape Special Section were notified and assumed the investigative responsibility for the case. Detective Maria Tomes, the lead investigator, conducted the investigation and assisted the victim and her mother. During Detective Tomes' interview with the victim, she learned that the victim and her mother had moved to the Los Angeles area while the victim's father remained in Imperial County where he was recuperating from injuries suffered in a traf-

fic accident. The father's injuries caused him to lose his job resulting in a financial hardship for him and his family. This gave the victim and her mother no other choice, but to move north to Los Angeles where they sought menial jobs and worked as street vendors to make financial ends meet.

Detective Tomes diligently investigated this case and conducted several interviews and follow-up investigations. She worked closely with fellow detectives from Robbery-Homicide Division, utilizing their expertise to identify the suspect, **Martin Perez Hernandez, 27 years of age** who had used many aliases in the past. Efforts to locate Hernandez through friends and acquaintances were unsuccessful. The suspect had eluded detectives and he may have returned to his native country of Mexico. **Detective Tomes presented the case to the Los Angeles County District Attorneys office and ten Felony counts were filed and an arrest warrant was issued for Martin Perez Hernandez.**

Detective Tomes showed a genuine concern for the welfare of the pregnant victim who was left without food, clothing and other personal possessions that were left behind in her apartment after the sexual assault. Tomes was instrumental in assisting the victim's mother in getting her rental deposit back from a less than sympathetic apartment manager. The victim and her mother later reunited with her father in Imperial County where the victim now lives.

Detective Tomes realized the unfortunate situation the victim was in and she set out to assist her in a charitable and a humanitarian way. Detective Tomes was able to obtain money, food, clothing, infant clothing, blankets and much more for the victim and her family from generous donations from members of the Los Angeles Police Department who were unselfish and very generous during the holiday season. Additionally, on December 19, 2002, Detective Tomes addressed the Robbery-Homicide Division Christmas Luncheon and spoke about the victim's

ordeal. The kind hearts of Robbery-Homicide Division personnel including the food service workers who whose hearts were touched by the victim's plight donated \$620.00. The food service workers also donated the left over food from the luncheon to the victim and her family.

On Friday, December 20, 2002, **Detectives Maria Tomes and Adolfo Contreras** presented the victim and her family at their home in Imperial County with all the donations and gifts through Detective Tomes' unselfish efforts. The victim and her family were very grateful and lost for words but their heartfelt thanks truly went out to **Detective Tomes and the men and women of the Los Angeles Police Department who truly are the "Angels" in the city of Angels.**

Detectives assigned to the Rape Special Section have investigated numerous serious crimes involving sexual assault cases. Each case is unique and difficult posing a challenge for every detective and the victim. The victim's cooperation is paramount to the success of each investigation. A detective has seen how the lives of victim's have been significantly traumatized and their lives forever changed from these brutal crimes. Most importantly, all the victims have expressed how grateful they are to have survived. Although, their lives have been interrupted in such a horrible way, they are hopeful to return to a normal life.

Detective Maria Tomes is commended for her diligent and thorough investigation and the identification of a rape suspect, her professionalism and commitment to service while unselfishly assisting a victim of a brutal rape and for showing compassion and concern for the people for whom she serves. Tomes commitment truly exemplifies the superior quality and exceptional caliber of the Los Angeles Police Department.

RHD Legal Corner

Are You Putting Yourself in Harm's Way?

Lieutenant Rick Papke

You are taking a serious risk of being sued for a Civil Rights violation if you are administratively questioning in-custody arrestees, i.e., uses-of-force, personnel complaints, etc., if these individuals have not been advised of and waived their Miranda rights. You run a similar risk if you do not receive permission from an arraigned suspect's attorney prior to administrative questioning.

The U.S. 9th Circuit Court of Appeals and the California Supreme Court hate the practice of California law enforcement officers questioning in-custody arrestees outside of Miranda for any purpose. These courts rely on the strict interpretation of Miranda which states police must advise in-custody arrestees of their Miranda rights prior to questioning. If the suspect invokes his rights, all questioning must cease (*Miranda v. Arizona*).

The cases of *California Attorneys v. Butts*, *Henry v. Kernan and People v. Peevey* all state coercive questioning outside Miranda is a civil rights violation: "Officers who intentionally violate the rights protected by Miranda must expect to have to defend themselves in civil actions." They are not protected by their Department's practices or training. (*Calif. Attorneys v. Butts*).

The 9th Circuit holds that coercive questioning outside Miranda for criminal or, apparently, administrative purposes is a civil rights violation. (*Martinez Case, Oxnard*):

In *Martinez*, a sergeant investigating an OIS and attempting to get a dying declaration questioned a non-Mirandized in-custody suspect who was shot by police (the suspect lived). The questioning was deemed to be coercive and that coupled with the Miranda violation equaled a civil rights violation.

California Deputy Attorney General Joel Carey conducted an analysis of the Butts decision: "A deliberate violation of Miranda creates a danger of coercion as well as a legal presumption of it. Although a 'benign' or 'non-coercive' violation of Miranda will not support a civil rights action, if the police do anything in addition to simply asking questions, such as making promises or false statements, arguing, persuading, speaking loudly or harshly, making threatening gestures, or doing or saying virtually anything else, they run the risk of being 'coercive' and are practically asking to be sued."

You run a similar risk of perpetrating a civil rights violation if you question an arraigned suspect without securing permission from his/her attorney. The Sixth Amendment prohibits police questioning of arraigned suspects without permission from the suspect's attorney.

To further complicate matters administrative questioning of an in-custody arrestee prior to Mirandized criminal questioning could invalidate the Miranda waiver and cause the statement to be suppressed, under the "softening up" defense of (*People v. Honeycutt*).

The Department is aware of these issues and is currently working on guidelines to address them. While we wait for these guidelines the following suggestions are offered for your consideration:

Questioning by criminal investigators should precede administrative questioning.

Administrative questioning of an in-custody arrestee should be preceded by a Miranda warning and waiver.

If an in-custody arrestee invokes his/her Miranda rights, all questioning, including administrative questioning should cease.

Obtain permission from an arraigned suspect's attorney prior to questioning for any purpose.

Be safe out there, both physically and legally, and keep yourself out of harm's way. ♦



by James Tomeo
Rampart Division

Arrivals

Welcome to P-3 **Barrow, G. #31475** from Central and P-3 **Martinez, J. #32879** from RMD both new Detectives here at Rampart, Congrats. Lt. **St-Pierre, M. #24227** is here at Rampart from Central. Sgt. **Patroquin, M. #26502** is back from Van Nuys, and Sgt. **Benitez, K. #31844** is now here at Rampart Along with Det. **Herrera, M. #23308** from RHD. Then we are getting two fresh P-1's from the Academy P-1's **Bravo** and **Hernandez**, welcome.

Commendable Caper

On January 8, 2003 Officers **Contreras #25402** **Rojas #32125** were in the area of 3rd and New Hampshire when a crime broadcast was put out by a Wilshire unit of a Robbery that had just occurred.

Officers obsd the vehicle described in the crime broadcast and initiated a following. The vehicle failed to yield and a pursuit ensued. The officers pursued the susps about 2 hrs and wound up in South/West Division, Lower Baldwin Hills Area. After a short encounter with a 415 crowd in the area, officers were able to take 3 Robbery suspects into custody. The arrests cleared up a slew of DR#'s in both Rampart and Wilshire Divisions. Amazingly, the robberies in the area dropped off dramatically after the arrests too. Good teamwork and persistence by Officers from several divisions, resulted in these arrests, great job guys!!!

I have an apology for **Patty** this month too, sorry about the omission of your name last month. ♦

Well I want to start off this month with a few farewells to a few of Ramparts old timers. First there P-3 **Danny Burzumato #22992** who has been at Rampart for 14 years now is off to play Detective "again" at Harbor. P-3 **Jimmy Woods #26352** (aka: the hardest working cop in the division) who has 13 years at Rampart is going to West Valley. And last but not least P-3+1 **Anthony Lopez #25421** (aka: Big Tony) who has been here for 11 years is going down to South/East. For a combined total of 38 years lost in one month, their experience, friendship and most of all character will be missed. We wish you guys all the best and good luck in your future endeavors, and remember you will always have a home here at Rampart.

Other departures include Lt. **Villegas, J. #26714** going to Central, Sgt. **Vargas, A. #30493** going to 77th, Det. **Hosea, S. #27785** going to IAG, and P-3 **Montejano, P. #32784** going to South East. We wish all of you good luck and best wishes in your new assignments.

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DIVISIONAL REPORTER

TRAFFIC TALK

by Eugene "The Taxman" Bedolla
South Traffic Division

Greetings Amigos. We are just roaring right along through 2003. Always remember to be professional and courteous but most important, take care of yourself and your partner.

Baker to Vegas

South Traffic Division is joining forces with our compadres in Harbor Division. Our goal is to have loads of fun and to bring home a mug. Our combined team will enlist the top runners from both divisions to accomplish these goals. A note to other divisions: the runner passing you on the left just might be one of our top gun runners.

Recognition

To be recognized for a job well done is something that should be done on a regular basis. South Traffic's follow-up

unit has chosen to recognize Officer **Connie Wright** is a hard working, conscientious officer and well deserving of this recognition. On the collision investigation side, Officer **Andrew Gonzalez** has been recognized as South Traffic's Officer of the Quarter. Officer Gonzalez demonstrates passion in his police work and can be counted on to get the job done. Finally Sgt. I-II **Jimmy Chong** has been selected as Supervisor of the Quarter. My hat is off to anyone who can successfully supervise BCMCs.

Happy Trails to You

South Traffic Division wishes to extend a fond farewell to Officer **Tim Morris** as he has chosen to rejoin his old buddies at DARE Division. Also, best wishes to Officer **Jose Robledo** as he keeps the San Fernando Valley safe at Van Nuys Division. Finally, Central Traffic Division will be the recipient of one of our finest D-2s, Det. **Felix Padilla**. Good luck and be safe.

As always, you are encouraged to keep in contact with our brother and sister officers who are sick, ill or injured. The most recent injured officer is Motor Officer **Kevin Smith**. We are all very happy that you will make a full recovery, Kevin.

As always in departing, Motors, keep the rubber side down, and C.I., keep the light bar off of the pavement. ♦



by Tom Fox
Central Traffic Division

Ins & Outs of CTD

F. Padilla, #26497, returns to CTD, CIFU after a short stay at STD.

2002 Stats

In 2002, Central Traffic Division handled 11,892 reportable traffic collisions. Fifty-two K-Traffic Collisions, down 29.7 percent from 2001; 278 A-Injury traffic collisions down 2.5 percent; 62,199 violators were cited in 2002 in Central Bureau, up 12.9 percent from 55,095 in 2001; DUI arrests were up by 43 percent.

A good job was done by everyone in the Division, including the CTD Reserve Officers with over 100 Bandit Taxi cab driver arrests and impounds.

Congratulations

Sgt.-I **Joe Jennerson**, Sgt.-I **Richard Lockett** will soon be back on their motors as Sgt.-I+2. Both sergeants were P-2+2 at CTD.

Hey out there in the "new" LAPD land. So how many of us have ever driven our vehicle over the posted speed limit or negotiate that right turn when there was an international sign for no right turn (right arrow with red circle and a \)? Anyway, we in the police business know that when we see a traffic violation, it is the open door (P.C.) to a legal detention: hence the traffic stop.

So how would we like "Joe or Jane" citizen to react to having a steady red light and siren behind them in a vehicle he/she is driving? Before I go any further, let me tell you a story. Once upon a time a good "little" motor cop (did not

like donuts, ate fruit instead) was estimating the speed of fast traveling vehicles in a complaint area. He/she kept an eye on the flow of traffic, quickly scanning numerous vehicles for speed. It did not take long before a speeding vehicle came along with its driver not wearing a seat belt. The motor officer made eye contact with the speeder. The speeder looked at the officer and made an attempt to slow down or put on his/her seat belt.

Just like any good motor officer, the steady red light and siren were activated. This began the infamous traffic stop. The driver positioned the vehicle along the curb. The motor officer, with his/her left foot, acquired the kickstand and placed it in the down position and quickly dismounted the motor. The driver of the vehicle took it upon him/her self to exit the vehicle and use his/her right hand to reach behind his/her back. The motor officer quickly broke leather in anticipation of a weapon. The motor officer did not know what to expect. A gun, maybe? It turned out the citizen was reaching for his/her police I.D. Think of the headlines: "Cop shoots cop" (it already happened not too long ago).

This was all said to say again how would we want "Joe/Jane" citizen to react to having a steady red light and siren behind them in their vehicle. Let me share some etiquette for coppers on or off duty being pulled over by a blue suiter copper. First, when on duty (plain clothes) and you see the red light, do not flash the badge out the window. This shows the citizens of L.A. how the "po po" drive. Do not display the new digital Astro radio, again it gives bad vibes to the citizens of L.A. Also do not give the infamous hand signal for Code-4. Instead, pull safely to the right and have your hands on the steering wheel. When the motor officer or those that want to be a motor officer approaches your vehicle, politely and quickly identify yourself as an on/off duty police officer that is armed. Oh yeah, do not forget to smile.

Until the next letter, keep watching the hands and do Cal op checks (22651 (p)/14602's v.c.).

— Submitted by Henry Guardado ♦

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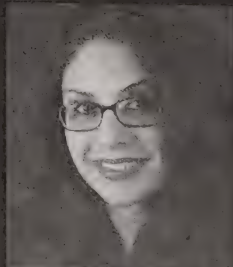
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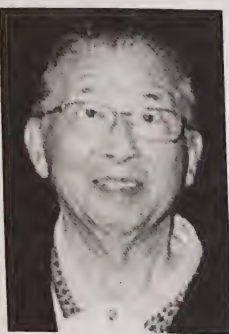
SPORTS BEAT

Sports Beat is a regular feature of *The Thin Blue Line*. For information about submissions to Sports Beat, please call the Sports Beat Info Line at (323) 221-5222, ext. 800.

LAPRAAC Sports Roundup

by Lew Snow
Sports Beat Editor

Our month starts with the sad news that one of, if not the, most beloved and avid supporter of LAPD's athletic program over the last five decades is seriously ill. At our press deadline 80-year-old Kenji Taniguchi was at Good Samaritan Hospital with a mixed prognosis for his long-term health.



Kenny Taniguchi

Anyone with a nano-second or more of involvement with the program has either met Kenny, seen him volunteering at an athletic program, or heard of his single-minded devotion to the department and his community. It would be a safe bet to say Kenny, as the owner of Brooklyn Sporting Goods in Boyle Heights, has outfitted pretty much every name athlete to come out of Hollenbeck and the Eastside over the last 50 years.

Through his business Kenny has provided, at cost or substantial discount, hundreds of thousands of dollars of athletic supplies to department athletes and teams. He has also donated thousands of hours of time to assist at events: setting up before and tearing down after, timing runners, working concession booths, manning the finish lines, directing traffic... no matter what the task he would gladly take it with a smile without a second thought about how important or unimportant it was.

Kenny's civic achievements with the Japanese American Optimists, Japanese Community Youth Council, as a 40-year member of the LA Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, one of the founders of LA's first marathon, and a founder of the Griffith Park Cross-Country Run have earned him countywide respect. He has been honored by LAPRAAC with the Bill Stein Award for outstanding service, Citizen of the Year in 1977 and Citizen of the Decade 1980-89. In 1998 he was

once again named Citizen of the Year and the honor renamed the Kenji Taniguchi Award. Although hobbled by health issues over the last few years Kenny was spry as ever at the Sports Awards Dinner in December, schmoozing with Maury Wills and having his picture taken with the 2002 Citizens of the Year.

We join all those Kenny has touched over the years to offer a prayer for his speedy recovery and return to good health. The 50th annual Sports Awards Dinner is only eight months off and there's a table set with his name on the place card.

New Dates For Bench Press, Memorial Run

"The best laid plans o mice and men..." goes the centuries-old quotation from Scottish poet Robert Burns. So, too, it goes for LAPD Athletic Director Tony Adler. Due to scheduling conflicts and other issues two major springtime events have been moved to new dates.

Held every year since 1979 the 25th Annual Memorial Run has been pushed ahead one week. It's now official -- this year's event will be held on Saturday, May 3, at Dockweiler Beach in Playa del Rey. A flyer can be found elsewhere in this section and applications for individuals and teams are available throughout the department or by calling (323) 221-5222 ex. 218.

We'll have to wait to see if 77th Street can make it 15 consecutive victories -- the Spring Bench Press Contest has been pushed back two months to Friday, May 16, at the Elysian Park Academy Gym. Flyers and entry forms for those seeking to dethrone the Power Pigs should be available at the end of this month (or by calling the number in the previous paragraph).

Basketball Playoffs Underway

The just ended 2002-03 intradepartmental basketball league season ended with what is charitably described as a "whimper" and playoffs were just getting underway at our press deadline.

Due to the significant number of forfeits and dropouts the half-hearted league play has been declared a "warm-up" for the post-season tournaments and no official standings will be issued.

In the "A" League Tournament amongst the top-tier teams Central #1, Parker Center, Rampart #1 and defending LAPD champion 77th Street battle it out for the Captain Al Nelson Trophy. Competing in the "B" League Tournament are Harbor, Hollenbeck, Metro #1, Newton, Northeast, North Hollywood, Rampart #2, Southwest, Training and West Valley.

"C" League Tournament action (final game is Tuesday, March 4, 1200 at the Elysian Park Academy Gym) features Captains, Central #2, Devonshire, Foothill, Hollywood, Internal Affairs, Metro #2, Pacific, Rampart #3, Southeast, Transit Group, West Traffic, Wilshire and Wilshire Vice. Playing for the "D" League Tournament trophy are Central Traffic, CIID, Newton Vice and South Traffic.

We'll have tournament results in the April issue of *The Thin Blue Line*.

We Welcome Your Articles...

We can't publicize an upcoming event, or crow about your achievements, if we don't know about them! Submitting articles for Sports Beat is easier than glomming onto a free cuppa joe and cruller at Winchell's and less fattening, too! If you're planning an event or have one coming up submit an article about two months in advance for pre-event publicity. (If you're unsure of the deadline for a specific event let us know via e-mail and we'll respond with the deadline.)

To be included in Sports Beat we must receive articles -- via fax or e-mail -- no less than three days before the end of current month: articles received by March 28 will appear in the May issue, April 27 for June, May 28 for July, etc.

Submitting articles is easy -- e-mail to LAPDSportsBeat@aol.com or fax to (818) 957-4275. Even if you just send notes with a contact name/phone we can create an article that gets the word out. Photos are welcome -- low-res or jpeg images (scans) are preferred via e-mail (or indicate on your fax or e-mail you have photos and we'll contact you). ♦

More Sports Beat on next page

LAPD CENTURIONS ALUMNUS

We are attempting to locate alumni for the upcoming 25th Anniversary of the LAPD Centurions Football Team. If you know the whereabouts of any alumnus (retired and working) please contact, Secretary Angie Roman at:


Work: (213) 978-6510

Fax: (213) 978-0966

E-mail: A9117@lapd.lacity.org

Home Page: lapdcenturions.com





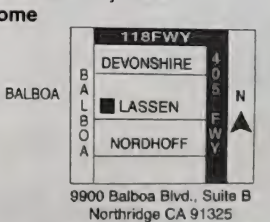
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Page 42 / The Thin Blue Line / March 2003

Clock Ticking on Preparations for Baker to Vegas Relay

by Lew Snow
Sports Beat Editor

Only six short weeks remain until the 19th Annual Baker to Vegas Challenge Cup Relay. This year's race is shaping up as a potential repeat of 2002's battle to the wire between LAPD's Metro Division and LASO's Special Enforcement Bureau. The 120-mile trek through the California desert and Nevada mountains, sponsored by the Los Angeles Police Revolver and Athletic Club, takes place April 12-13 along state highways from Baker to Shoshone to Pahrump to Las Vegas.

Although department teams have won six of the last seven races (interrupted only by the California Highway Patrol in 2000) this year's SEB squad is given the best chance to return the trophy to the L.A. County Sheriff's Office (which has not won since the 1992-95 streak by Central Jail). That feat would be even more remarkable as SEB runs in the "800 Division"—meaning the total age of all 20 runners is more than 800 years. Metro Division's Red Team is looking for a threepeat and a five out of six streak (1998-99, 2001-02).

The 28 other LAPD teams participating this year include the Aggies (Internal Affairs/Management Services), Air Support/Training, Anti-Terrorist/Parker Center, Central/Central Traffic/Central

Bureau, Communications, Devonshire, Foothill, Harbor, Hollenbeck, Hollywood, Jail Division, Metro Blue, Narcotics Group. Also represented: Newton, Northeast, North Hollywood, Pacific, Rampart, Retired, 77th Street, Southeast, Southwest, Transit Group, Van Nuys/Valley Traffic, West L.A., West Valley, Wilshire. The LAPD Women's Team is also looking for a threepeat and to extend its streak to all six of the races it has entered since 1995. Ten teams are entered in the women's category in 2003, which if all take to the starting gun, will be a record for any Baker to Vegas Relay.

The men and women in blue will be challenged by the usual invasion of LASO teams (33 in all), representing every nook and cranny in Sheriff Lee Baca's universe. Other agency groupings include five California Department of Corrections and Federal Bureau of Investigations teams and six from the California Highway Patrol. Four of the expected top ten fastest teams sport the green and tan: SEB, Central Jail, STAR Center and East L.A. Rounding out the top ten are FBI Los Angeles, San Diego PD, New York PD, Orange County Sheriffs, and Anaheim PD.

Look for full pre-race coverage in the April issue of *The Thin Blue Line*. For up-to-the-minute race information, visit www.bakervegas.com.

LAPD CENTURION 2003 Game Schedule

March 15, 2003 (Saturday DP 3*)

Dallas/ Ft. Worth (Away)

(Arrive Thursday, March 13th, leave Sunday March 16th)

March 29, 2003 (Saturday DP 3*)

LAFC (Away)

April 11 & 12, 2003 (Friday & Saturday DP 4*)

NYPD at Baker to Vegas (Host)

(If on Friday we will play a single game. The game may be moved to Saturday for a double header with South Bay and NY Corrections.)

May 3, 2003 (Saturday DP 4*)

Orange County (Host)

May 17, 2003 (Saturday DP 5*)

South Bay (Possible Co-Host)

May 31, 2003 (Saturday DP 5*)

Championship Game

(Location to be announced)

* With this schedule we are playing two games each in Deployment Periods 3, 4, and 5. There will be one travel game per DP (Dallas, B2V and Championship, (depending on location) so please plan accordingly.

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Whether it's scheduled changes, newly announced events, or scores of recent games, call the Sports Beat Info Line for the Latest details. Athletic Director Tony Adler updates the message weekly, or more often, as events warrant.

BAKER TO VEGAS CHALLENGE CUP RELAY RACE

Motor Team – Baker to Vegas
Riders Needed

On April 12th & 13th, the Los Angeles Police Revolver and Athletic Club will be sponsoring the annual relay event. The Motor Team – Baker to Vegas support the event by supplying skilled motorcycle riders who serve as Race Officials.

The function includes enforcement of Race Rules related to race and traffic safety. Motorcycles are required to have 4-way flashers, with Family Radio Service (FRS) 2-way radios (a \$50 reimbursement covers the majority of the FRS cost), with licensed HAM 2-way radios are a real plus.

Those individuals, both sworn and non-sworn, who would like to assist in covering Motor Team assignments for the event are encouraged to contact us for further details on equipment and assignments available, plus partial expense reimbursement provision.

Motor Team Coordinator Gary Krystof (LAPD Reserve)

(818) 366-9431 motorteam@earthlink.net

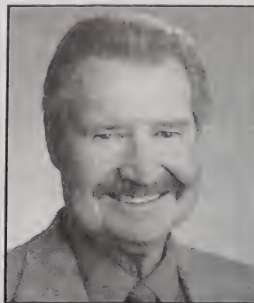
Motor Team - Supervisor Arizona/Nevada Area
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More Sports Beat on next page

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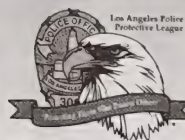
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SPORTS BEAT

LAPD CENTURIONS CELEBRATE 25TH ANNIVERSARY

The Los Angeles Police Department is proud to announce the 25th anniversary of their storied football program. The Centurions, as they are called, is a program that was started in 1978 by police officers hoping to continue their football careers. Some of the players had NFL and major college experience. Others simply loved the game and wanted to continue the past time they grew to love as they graduated from high school and college.

Over the course of the years, the football team developed a following and began to raise money and interest, especially among the department and community youth groups. The officers formed a non-profit organization for the football team, and began to raise money for local charities. Their commitment to their community did not stop at the end of their work-day, but instead, continued on as officers worked on their own time to develop the team and include youth groups and disadvantaged children at their games.

In 25 years the team has developed into an organization that has contributed over \$120,000 to local charities. This is money these charities would never have obtained on their own, and used it to help the disadvantaged children the football team supported. In addition to the charities, the football team's motto of "we play football for kids" was never more true than during the late 1980's and early 1990's. During this time period the Centurions hosted several games that attracted 35,000-40,000 fans at such prestigious places as the Los Angeles Coliseum, and the Miami Orange Bowl.

dren and their parents. It became a great opportunity for fans to introduce their children to the game of football, support a local charity, and meet police officers out of uniform.

The team itself has become the envy of almost every semi-professional team in the nation. Not only were the officers good at raising money for charity and promoting their profession but were outstanding football players as well.

In recent years, the team has developed into what most would call the most dominant football team in police and public safety football. Since joining the National Public Safety Football League (NPSFL) in 1997, the team has a record of 30-5, winning the Western Conference Championship every year except 1999. The Centurions have appeared in the last three NPSFL National Championship games, winning the title in 2001 over the Houston Gunner team, and nearly winning the 2002 title, only to come up short to a very good NYPD Finest team 7-6.

The Centurions are looking to find their way into the Championship game for an unprecedented 4th time in 4 years, and also contend for the American Football Association National Championship during the 2003 season, their 25th overall. The following is their game schedule for the season. It is a good opportunity to introduce your kids to the game of football with the family, and provides some very good football games for the avid football enthusiast. So come out and support your police department, your community, and your football team. Go Centurions!

2003 LAPD Centurion Game Schedule:

March 15, 2003 (Saturday)	@ Dallas/Ft Worth Panthers
March 29, 2003 (Saturday)	@ LAFD Heat (at Culver City High School)
April 11, 2003 (Friday)	NYPD Finest (in Las Vegas)
May 3, 2003 (Saturday)	Orange County Lawmen (Time/place TBA)
May 17, 2003 (Saturday)	South Bay Blue Knights (Time/place TBA)
May 31, 2003 (Saturday)	NPSFL National Championship Game (time, date, & location TBA)

During this time the team won back-to-back National Championships. Most of the fans at these games were in fact chil-

Please check out our website & posted flyers for game locations, dates, & times, at www.LAPDCenturions.com.

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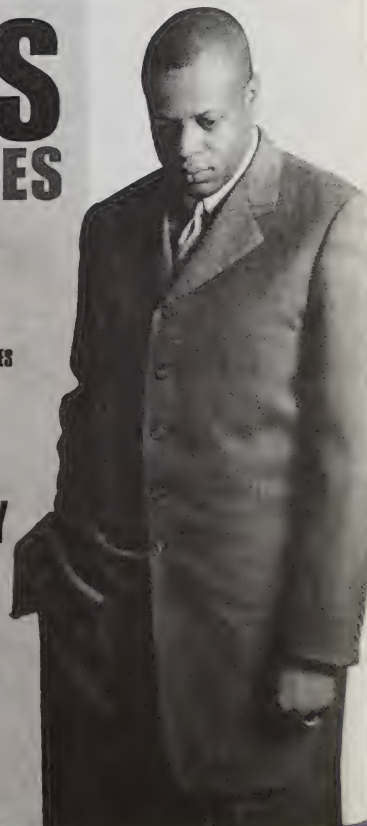
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RETIREMENT NEWS



The Retirement News is a regular feature of *The Thin Blue Line*. Retirees may submit articles for publication. Deadline for submission is the 1st of the month for the following month's issue date.



by Dave Aikins

Judy Aikins, 805-489-4806.

Focus on the Fuzz

Our Fuzz Focus this month is on one of our fearless leaders, **Paul Mattson**, #11765. Paul joined the Department on Oct. 28, 1963, and worked 77th Street and University Divisions after graduation from the Academy. In early 1969, Paul was one of the first observers selected in the budding ASTRO program, flying in Air 3 over South Central L.A. Later that year, Paul promoted to sergeant, returning to 77th Street Division. Subsequently, he was assigned to Narcotics Division as a Detective II from 1971 to 1979. After a stint at IAD as a Sgt. II, he found his niche in Operations Valley Bureau in 1982. Then Chief **Dan Sullivan** picked Paul to head up the now famous COBRA Unit. COBRA stood for Covert Operations Battling Recidivist Activities. (Say what? Didn't we use some other terminology for those guys?) Anyway, the unit was staffed by ten talented P-IIs gleaned by Sgt. Mattson from the five Valley Divisions. Paul selected the hardest working officers he could find. The unit quickly gained the respect of other Department entities as it focused on hard core career criminals that were plaguing the OVB divisional detectives. The COBRA unit worked closely with Parole and Probation officers along with specialized units within the Department, such as Air Support Division. Paul realized that in order to conduct proper surveillances of these cagey, street-wise criminals, the unit would have to drive

cool, undercover vehicles, which were no available through the Department. After a lot of legwork, Paul obtained the support of the L.A. City Council which approved the concept of the Hold Harmless Agreement, wherein the unit could use new vehicles from local car dealers without their occurring liability. With Department approval, Paul gathered the support of many members of the community and the unit became a Department legend. During its 18-year existence from November, 1982, until December, 2000, it was the longest lasting non-budgeted Task Force in Department history. Its conviction rate of career criminals was well over 80 percent.

Paul Mattson was in charge of the unit from its inception until his retirement in 1993. Paul and his wife, Stella, were married in 1980, and she retired as

the Lieutenant CO of Foothill Detectives. Paul and Stella resided in the Sunland area and rotated between there and a home at Big Bear Lake, where Paul worked for a privately owned lake patrol. In 1999, they headed up the coast and found a beautiful home in Nipomo where Paul is active in boating, fishing, and horseback riding. He also raises goats, chickens and rabbits and cares for a variety of family pets. He is an active bowler, competing in numerous tournaments including the Police Olympics.

Paul and Stella were very active with our Fuzz That Wuzz group last year and continue to make each function a memorable one. We all appreciate all that they have done. What a couple!

Take care, folks. Catch us at Pismoguvngal@charter.net.

KMA

Old Blue Running Team

by Mike McKean

March Sunday Run

The final Sunday run is scheduled for March 9, 2003, at "the usual place." That is Griffith Park, behind the baseball diamond at the rear of the Park Ranger's station off Crystal Springs Road. To reach Crystal Springs Road, take the I-5 to Griffith Park off-ramp and make a right at the boulevard stop sign. You'll be on Crystal Springs Road. Follow it for about three quarters of a mile to the Park Rangers station where you make a right turn down to the ball field and you'll see us and be able to say, "Hey, there's old what's his name!" This is the last tune-up run before the Baker to Vegas run.

Remember the team headquarters will be at the Las Vegas Hilton where Old Blue will have a hospitality room. Rooms are available (at this time) for \$99. The phone number is (702) 732-5111 and remember to mention the code

words "Baker to Vegas" for the discount.

The January run was held on January 12. Driving to the location as I passed through North Hollywood, the temperature was 50 degrees. The run was started promptly at 8:06 a.m. By 8:30 a.m. the temperature was 75 degrees, not bad for winter. It was close to 80 degrees after the last runner finished. The runners were **Keith Allen, Bob Carter, Mike Cherry, Bruce Hoover, Chuck McTaggart, Mike Munoz, Jim O'Connor, Gene Peterson, Mel Sandvig, and J.J. Thompson**. Assisting with the race were **George Beck, Diane Harber, Mike McKean, and Terry Wonders**.

After the run, we all retreated to have "Code 7" at the pitch and putt golf course on Los Feliz Blvd. So write down that date, March 9, and "come on down" and join the group and find out that we really are the (not so) Old Blue Running Team. We'll even take newcomers out for breakfast. See you there!

More Retirement News on next page

Dates to Remember

MARCH		Event Time/ Social	Meal
March 5	L.A. Retired Fire & Police General Meeting @ Grace Simons Lodge	1000	
March 7	Paul Enox	1700	1800
March 9	Old Blue Running Team	0800	
March 13	S.A.B.L.A.	1130	1200
March 15	Reserve Officers Awards Banquet @ Hilton Airport Tower Hotel (LAX)	1700	
March 15	LAPD Centurions at Dallas/Ft. Worth		
March 17	Baker-Vegas Golf Tournament at Los Serranos CC	0930	
March 19	Valley Retired Blues	1030	
March 20	Central Coast Fuzz	1100	1200
March 21	Mike Bohlen	1800	1900
March 21	Joe Gunn	1800	1900
March 27	Newton "Golf for Kids" @ Brookside GC	1030	
March 29	LAPD Centurions at LAFD Heat		
APRIL			
April 2	L.A. Retired Fire & Police General Meeting at Grace Simons Lodge	1000	
April 9	Inland Blue Line	1030	1200
April 10	LAPPL College Day at Police Academy	0900	
April 11	LAPD Centurions v. NYPD at Las Vegas		
April 12 & 13	Baker-to-Vegas Relay		
April 16	Valley Retired Blues	1030	
April 17-19	Arizona Police Games at Tucson		
April 26	LAPD/LAPPL participate in Earthday at LA Zoo		

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RETIREMENT NEWS

Sacramento Area Blue Line Association (S.A.B.L.A.)

Dateline: Sacramento (Area Blue Line Association)...Well, here we are in the month of March. It's time to have some of that good "green" Irish beer on the 17th (St. Pat's day) to go along the corned beef and cabbage. For all of our members, our monthly rendezvous is scheduled for **March 13th** at **Friends Restaurant** in **Rancho Cordova** (just off Hwy 50 at Zinfandel (not the wine) Road. As you know (if you've attended any of our meetings there), you can order right off the menu any number of different selections. Once again **SABLA** always extends an open invitation to anyone visiting the Sacramento area to join us for a couple of hours of yah dee, yah dee, yah dee (that's lunch and conversation).

Barring any unforeseen change in plans, we will be hosting two (2) guest speakers. They are twin brothers, **Joel and Jeff Neves**. Joel is currently the **Chief of Police** for the City of **Roseville** (located a little E/NE of Sacramento, off I/S Hwy 80) and Jeff is the newly elected **Sheriff of El Dorado County** (that extends from the Sacramento County Line to South Lake Tahoe). Everyone is encouraged to join us.

At our January meeting **SABLA President Chuck Crawford** welcomed 14 members in attendance (and we didn't even have a guest speaker). As we have reported earlier, the passing of **John Powers** has left a void at our meeting. He always shared his experiences and history of the LAPD with us. He will be missed, particularly at our meeting. Our Secretary/Treasurer **Hoy Key** always included excerpts from John's unpublished book in our monthly **SABLA newsletter**. Interesting reading to say the least. Again, we like to express our condolences to his wife and family.

Speaking of **Hoy Key**, he missed our January meeting as he was on a cruise that took him around the tip of South America. He reported having a very pleasurable and exciting trip. He especially enjoyed riding through a **HURRICANE** with 100+ mile an hour winds and **GIANT** swells. The Captain of the ship recommended all passengers remain in their cabins, and preferably in the bunks. Maybe "land ahoy, land ahoy" should be **Hoy Key, Hoy Key!!** Of course we're glad to see him back home on "dry" land.

As you know, crime knows no boundary. Nothing is sacred. **Ron and**

Marilyn Kiser (of Kiser's Wine Country BBQ (held in September each year in Sonoma) made a \$100 donation to **SABLA**. They mailed the \$100 check to **SABLA** in November only to find out in December that it had been stolen and altered by an unknown suspect, somewhere between the post office in Sonoma and the post office in Sacramento. The stolen check was possibly redeemed in San Francisco. "**SABLA**" had been altered on the check to appear similar to **HASBRA, G** (gee we'd like to know who he is??). Anyway, the postal inspectors, Sonoma PD and the bank investigators are on the case, and in hot pursuit of the culprit. Arrest is imminent (hopefully!!) We'll keep you posted, I mean posted on this heinous event as the "**SAGA CONTINUES**".

FYI: Just as are minder, we **NO LONGER** use the Post Office Box in Sacramento. If I recall correctly, we discontinued the P.O. Box back in Sept/Oct. 2002. All U.S. mail should be sent directly to, you guess it, to **Hoy Key's** residence in Roseville.

Those attending our January meeting included myself, were **Tony Baldassano**, **Chuck Ward**, **Ray Lauritzen**, Lou "goatee" **Ritter**, **Chuck Blogin**, **Bob Keel**, **Gene DeCrona**, **Al Ferrone**, **Jim Meskan**, **Bob Markussen**, **Bob Trout** and **Roy Kerton**. Still no **Bernie Remas** in sight. I guess he's still basking on the golf course in that warm Florida sun.

Misc. items: My sons gave me a great Christmas gift. They presented me with the full set of "**Badge of Honor**", sold by the **Los Angeles Police Historical Society**. It was put together quite well. I think you'd all enjoy it.... Like many retired members from **LAPD**, I am a current employee for the State of California. As you know the State budget is in dire straits. To save \$\$\$, the State wants to start merging agencies. The first two agencies to merge will be the **CHP** and the **Dept. of Fish and Game**... Spring training has started, and I've got to get ready for my Fantasy Baseball draft. Maybe I should go see **Bernie** in Florida for some baseball drafting tips. So until next month, be safe and enjoy life..... **P.S....don't forget the meeting on the 13th!**... Oh, before I sign off, effective July 1, 2003, those two listed agencies above will be known as **Fish and ChiPS**.....**Ed Lewandowski** ♦

77th Street Division Alumni Assoc. Reunion-2003

It's hard to believe that in June, 1982, we had the first reunion of the 77th Street Division Alumni Association. It was the brainchild of **Morris (Mac) Candlish**, and **George Surber**. It was a complete success, and now, 21 years later, we are still going strong. Our numbers have diminished, from 175 to 114, but when we hear "see you next year," we start making plans. We have some attendees who have been to all 20, and some who are just now able to make it for the first time. Some bring spouses, sons, daughters, friends, and caregivers. We have people who come from as far as Oklahoma. Unfortunately, we lose a few friends each year, but their widows come.

Plans for our 21st reunion are made, and we thought some of you would like to know who attended last year. Maybe you will see a classmate, or former partner, and it might spur your desire to come this year. We have listed the officers in alphabetical order and would like to add your name to the list. Do you know **Bill Achen**,

Abel Armas, **Curt Batchelder**, **Augusta (Gustie) Bell**, **Pete Brautovich**, **James Byrd**, "**Mac**" **Candlish**, **Robert (Bob) Carleton**, **Robert (Bob) Drees**, **Vic Elliott**, **Al Fried**, **Sharon Fried**, **Richard (Dick) Gingras**, **Robert (Bob) Hogenbaugh**, **Marty Hairabedian**, **Jack Halstead**, **Jim Hardin**, **Harley Hunnel**, **John Hunt**, **Sam Johnson**, **Bill Lietz**, **Charles (Charlie) Loust**, **Rolph Lucke**, **William (Bill) Mathieson**, **Richard McCutcheon**, **Bernie Michaels**, **George Mogle**, **Lou Monico**, **Albert Pacheco**, **Robert Parker**, **John Pearson**, **Roland Phillips**, **Lew Ritter**, **Bill Rombal**, **Tony Ruiz**, **Jay Snow**, **Lou Sporrer**, **Sid Stoffel**, **George Surber**, **Richard Sweet**, **Paul Thomas**, **Al Trader**, **Jan Van Leeuwen**, **Robin Welborn**, **Dave Wheeler**, **Donald G. Williams**, **Harold Yarnell**, and **Marty Yturralde**?

We would like ALL active and retired officers to attend. You'll have a good time. See our announcement in the **Blue Line**. Hope to see you there. ♦

All Active and Retired LAPD

the 21st 77th Street Division Alumni Association Reunion

WHERE: San Remo Hotel, 115 E. Tropicana Blvd., Las Vegas, Nevada
WHEN: June 2, 3, & 4, 2003
PACKAGE: 3 days, 2 nights (including tax); Hospitality room (bar and snacks & lunch); Five Raffle Tickets; and Banquet
DRESS: Casual
RESERVATIONS: Contact
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BOB CARLETON - (928) 680-4308 OR
ROLPH LUCKE - (909) 597-1653

CUTOFF DATE: May 1, 2003

77TH STREET DIVISION 21ST ANNUAL REUNION GOLF TOURNAMENT

WHEN: Tuesday, June 3, 2003 Tee Off - 7:00 a.m.
WHERE: Rhodes Ranch Golf Club
 20 Rhodes Ranch Parkway
 Las Vegas, NV 81948
 Phone: 1-888-311-8337
COST: \$60.00 per person - Includes golf, cart, range balls, and cash prizes. Special awards for closest to the pin and longest drive.

Registration required by May 30
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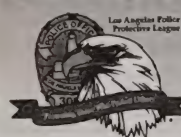
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VETERAN'S CORNER

continued from page 26

of your life thanking God that there were some men—SOME MEN—who held a job. And they required a dedication to purpose and a love of country and a dedication to duty that was more important than life itself. And their self sacrifice is what made this country possible. I have held a job, Howard!"

Special Days

March 5, 2003 – Ash Wednesday
March 6, 1836 – Remember the Alamo "Liberty & Independence Forever"
March 8, 2003 – Pomona Fairgrounds-Irish Fair
March 10, 2003 – Orthodox Lent Begins
March 14, 2003 – Friday-3rd Annual L.A., St. Patrick's Fire & Police Parade
March 17, 2003 – St. Patrick's Day

The Next Meeting of Police Post 381

Our meetings are held on the third

Tuesday of the month. The next meeting will be March 18, 2003. At Panorama Post #817, "our home away from home," 13553 Reedley Ave., Panorama City, (818) 781-2261. The normal \$5 donation for dinner will be requested. If you were at the last meeting, we served 20 dinners, then I do not have to tell you how good the food was, all home cooking. If Richard Kalk keeps up the good work, we might have to keep him as 2nd Vice.

For information on the meeting, please call Cmdr. Richard Ledesma or maybe you should call the First Lady Elvia Ledesma, (323) 478-0934 or Adjutant Frank Ortiz at (626) 331-4271. For anything else, call J.J., (818) 992-1414, even if only for someone to talk to...I'll listen!

IF YOU HAVE MOVED, PLEASE INFORM US OF YOUR NEW ADDRESS!! IF YOU ARE RETIRED, ARE YOUR DUES STILL BEING DEDUCTED? ♦

Valley Retired Blues

by Clinton O. Erickson

Our next luncheon meeting will be on March 19, 2003, at "The LAMP-LIGHTER" Restaurant located on the corner of DeSoto Ave and Nordhoff St. We meet in the Bar/Lounge area of the restaurant. There is no set start time, so you may arrive anytime after 10:30 A.M. Coffee is available until lunch orders are taken. All LAPD officers active or retired and their friends are welcome to attend.

We had 41 attending our January 15th luncheon. The following attended Bob BAKER (7839), Don BARNETT (7933), Walter C (Barney) BORONICH (3861), Frances DAVIDSON, Ted DEBS (6808), Ernie (3918) and Sylvia DICKEN, Ed ELLIOTT (4703), Hilliard (Curly) ELLIOTT (4534), Ray ELMER (5607), Clinton ERICKSON (5608), Bill FEDDERSON (4823), Bob (4583) and Martha FRITZ, Jack GERSON (5727), John GROGAN (11852), Glen KAILEY (3503), John KEPKE (4603), Jim LAWSON (10748), Bud (6680) & Bobbie LONG, Bob May (3747), Lou MELLOTT (4037), Boris MENEGHELLI (3522), Ralph MORALES (24209), Ernie (5268) and Mary NEUMAN, Ben REINEKE (3190), Duane (Whitey) RYBURN (3981), Guy SCHLOTZHAUER (2804), Forest SLOAN (6713), Bruce STOUGHTON (12492), Stu STREMERFER (4394), Jim SWISTON (4654), Dean WARNER (5682), Earl WELLS (6297), and Marion YATES. There were two new attendees this month, Sgt. Ralph Morales and Bruce

Stoughton. In addition to the above 41 names there were 4 from the Credit Union

The Los Angeles Police Credit Union was represented by Cindy CEBULAR, Maria ASCENCIO, Deanna WAL-LACE, and Eric STEVER. They gave a presentation of services offered and answered a lot of individual questions after our luncheon.

Sgt. Morales had fliers and invited us to a Reunion, Bar-B-Q and Auction on January 31, 2003 to say good bye to the old West Valley Police Station. The old station will be torn down and replaced with one which is about 3 times larger and it will be at the same location. The officers will be working out of trailers during construction of the new facilities.

Attendees to our meetings are now appearing on the LARFPA Website about a month prior to seeing them in this column. I would like for any of you retirees that have been associated or worked in any of the Valley divisions with computers to send me a message so I can send you information about retirees that may be ill or any deaths.

I know there are a lot of you that worked in the Valley and live in this area and hope you will come and join your old friends for a great bull session. Call me at (818) 340-2430 or e-mail at clintsr@pacbell.net if you want or have information of interest for us at the Lamplighters. Our meeting information is also on www.LARFPA.com Website in case you forget the date or location. Hope to see some more new faces at the next meeting. ♦

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Eastern Sierra Nevada Blue Line Retired LAPD

Friday, May 2, 2003

6:00 p.m. Open Bar 7:30 p.m. Dinner

Pinon Plaza, Carson City, NV, Hwy 50

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We hope to see a lot of you in May. ♦

More Retirement News on next page

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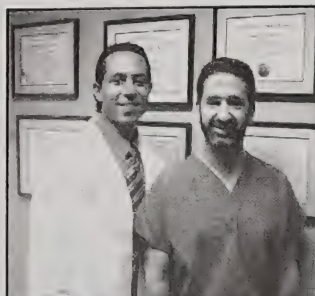
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RETIREMENT NEWS

Inland Blue Line

by Loyd Yandle

If the rest of 2003 is going to be like January, forget it. Indian casinos are not playing fair. Bingo all month was a disaster. Went to Laughlin for a week to celebrate my 50th birthday again, but it even hurts to talk about it. They must have known I was coming and locked all the machines down, and weighted the Keno balls down on the numbers I play. I've got to come up with another angle. Oh well, it's only money.

I was pleased with the response I have been getting commending me on the choice of our last luncheon guests, the LAPD Federal Credit Union. Guess I'm doing something right in my old age. I'm wracking my brain trying to come up with a good guest speaker for the April 9th luncheon. It ain't easy running a big club like this, and believe me you can't please everybody. But what the hell, the club was only formed just to get together with all our old buddies and the guests were just an added attraction at first and it turned into being a regular event. Now I'm running out of ideas. Want to thank all of the members. Well I shouldn't say all because not all have paid their increase in club dues, but those that have, I want to publicly thank you. Due to the cost of everything going up, January 1st we voted to raise the dues from \$5 to \$10 per year per family or consorting partners (live-ins, for you

squares). But you all have responded great, and I thank you.

It was great to see **Bruce & Mary Neuman** who came all the way from Gig Harbor, Washington. Both of them looked just great. They did not ride their motorcycle this time, but they still make trips all over come summer.

Lyda Phillips wrote me that **Floyd** is not doing too well. This is one great guy. Floyd helped me get on the police department. Floyd was an instructor when I came through the academy, and I can say we had the greatest bunch of instructors that the academy ever had: **Tom Redden, Merril Dualan, Chuck, & Mert Howe, Floyd Phillips, Ted Combs, and Bob Mathews**. They were tough and worked our buns off, but it paid off. And on behalf of the March 16th class of 1949, we want to thank you wherever you are. So Floyd, you got to get better. We need you around for a few more years. We used to have our class reunion every 10 years but for some reason we decided to drop them to every five years. So March 16, 2004, will mark our 55 years since entering the academy and we would like to invite all of the above who are still with us to our class reunion. So see you, Floyd. You have to get better, stay healthy. We need you at that reunion.

Gaurney Turner left a message on my answering machine while I was in Laughlin, notifying me that one of our club members, **Lloyd Lindsey**, had

Retirement Corner

Rank Name Serial No. Last Assigned toNo. of Years

DC-I	Willie L. Pannell	14928	Administrative Group	33
D-III	Connie "Eagle" Gordon	15567	Central	32
COMM	Thomas W. Lorenzen	16815	Internal Affairs	31
P-II+2	Mark D. Hammond	17698	West Traffic	30
SGT-III	Danny F. Mastro	21672	Devonshire	26

5 of L.A.'s finest for a total of 152 years of service.

passed away and notified me that they were having a memorial for him on Saturday, Feb. 1, but I did not get home until Feb. 2. I would like to express our sympathy on behalf of the whole Inland Blue Line club to Lloyd's wife, **Mary** and the Lindsey family. We will miss him and Lloyd's name will be added to the EOW board for Inland Blue Line members.

Had a nice letter from **Jeanne MacGregor** apologizing for missing the luncheon in January, but it was real stormy in the desert area. And she advised me her son was to have bypass surgery. They told me I needed one, but I got a second opinion and I feel great after taking the cardiac renewal treatment. Now if I could just get my knees worked on, I'd be off and running.

Lloyd & Dora Tucker usually helps me at the check-in table, but both have been under the weather for a while and had to miss the last luncheon. Sure hope they make the next one in April.

Now to continue on with the members: **Joanne Lance** (wife of Larry Lange), **John Lejuwaan**, **Thomas Lindholm**, **Pat Lipinski**, **Ray Lopez**, **Raymond Laroie**, **Harlee Lassiter**, **Charles Loust**, **Ray Lutz**, **Gil Loust**, **William Lietz**, **George Mulemor**, **Dan**

Mortell, **Ralph Morales**, **Alex Mestas**, **Gerald Moe**, **William Mathieson**, **John Mitchell**, **Richard Menarg**, **Tony Mazzon**, **Roger Mairs**, **Bill Mayfield**. Have not heard from **Pete Petteys**. Hope his jump starter is working good. The jump starter on his heart, that is. These motor officers stick together. Pete couldn't come last luncheon so his old motor partner **Mel Tusseau** wouldn't come either. Well let's hope both Peter and re-Pete (Mel) will be here next time. And oh yes, I made up a new "reserve" sign for **Bill Goldsberry**. Boy, I sure hope I don't get old and crotchety like some people I know.

Be advised that the next luncheon of the Inland Blue Line will be Wednesday, April 9, 2003, at the Anchor Restaurant in Hemet, Calif. Come on out and renew old acquaintances. You'll be glad you did. Just learned from **Hal Williams** that **Capt. Bob Perry** and **Stu Sipma** are not doing too well. All three live in the same park in Palm Desert. Here is hoping they get better. We miss them.

Well, that about does it from Hemet. Just remember, be careful. It's a jungle out there, so buckle up. We need you around for many moons to come, and God bless.

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RETIREMENT ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Los Angeles Police Department Announces A ...
Retirement Dinner

Honoring...

P-2+2

Mike Bohlen

#20044

Mikes Rap Sheet

4-73 L.A.P.D. Academy
9-73 Van Nuys Patrol
5-74 Jail Division
11-74 Newton Division
9-75 C.T.D. Accident Inv.
10-79 Motors W.T.D.
11-02 RETIRED

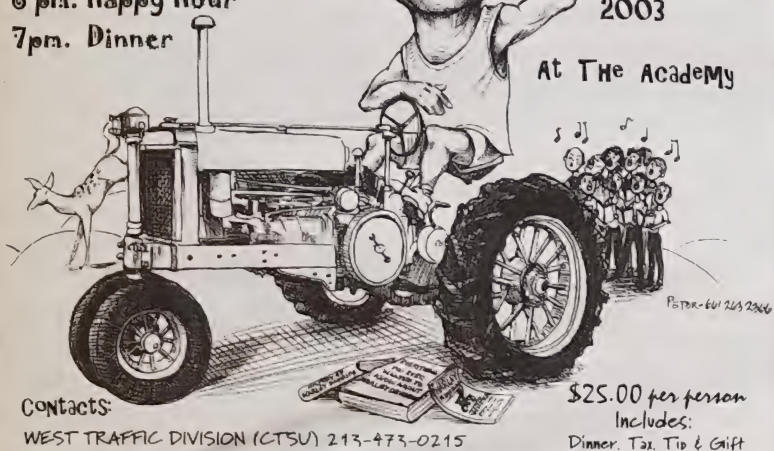
6 pm. Happy Hour

7pm. Dinner

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TRAFFIC
DIVISION

MARCH 21,
2003

At The Academy



Contacts:
WEST TRAFFIC DIVISION (CTSU) 213-473-0215

\$25.00 per person
Includes:
Dinner, Tax, Tip & Gift

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DATE: March 21, 2003

TIME: 6:00 Social

7:00 Dinner

7:45 Roast/Dancing

LOCATION: Omni Hotel, 251 S. Olive Street
Downtown Los Angeles

PRICE: \$45 includes dinner, tax, gratuity and gift

CONTACT: Officer Debbie Nichols, (213) 485-3531
Tami Catania, (213) 485-3531

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A-5

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G00-02

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D-11

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A-12

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F-17

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A-8

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L01-02

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A00-01

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L02-01

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G02-03

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B03-01

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F-14

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L00-02

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K00-02

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B03-04

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I02-03

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B03-05

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B-7

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H02-02

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I02-01

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Display Ads

The deadline is always the 6th of the month prior to publication. (For example, March 6th is the deadline for the April issue.) For ad rates, ad sizes, and photograph line screen information, please telephone Mark Deitch & Associates, Inc. at (818) 558-1010.

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Classified advertisers must be members of the LAPPL, and advertising may be for sale or rental of personal items ONLY. All new ads or ad

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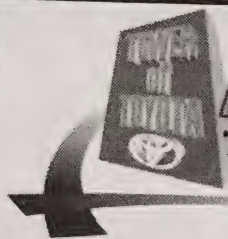
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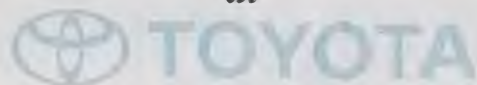
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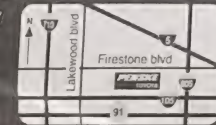
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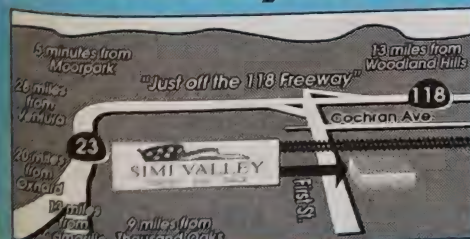
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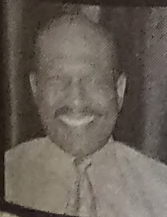
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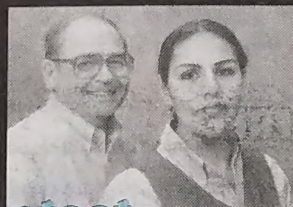
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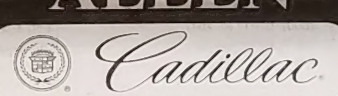

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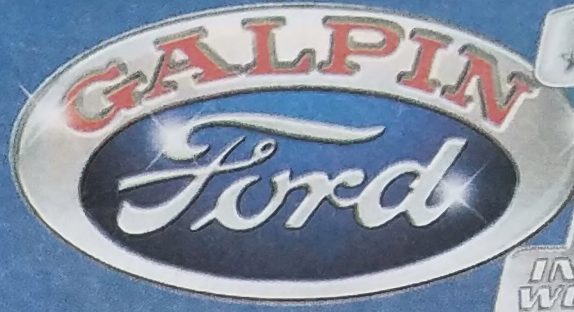
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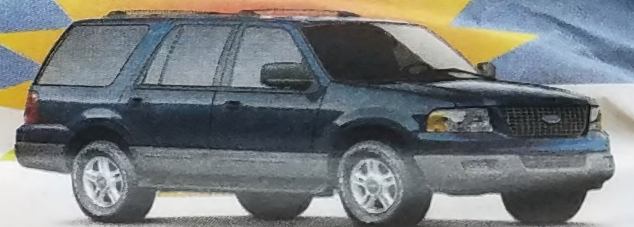
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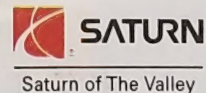
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